



SPLISH SPLASH



Freshman dental hygiene major Veronica Stephenson (left) struggles with opponent Jenny McCormick, sophomore undecided major, at an intramural water polo contest on Mar. 30, at the pool in Young Gymnasium.

INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL STUDIES

Symposium speaker to discuss peace

By JEFF WELLS
MANAGING EDITOR

Global leader and Central American peacemaker Oscar Arias will be the featured speaker for the 1999 Henry and Bernice Gockel International Symposium.

This year's topic will be "Latin America: Peace, Human Progress and New Challenges for the 21st Century." The Symposium will begin at 7:30 p.m. Monday at Taylor Performing Arts Center. Tickets are not required. The Symposium was abbreviated to one night after Rigoberta Menchu Tum withdrew from the schedule.

"It is an honor to have the former president of the Republic of Costa Rica and a Nobel Peace Prize winner on our campus for the Gockel Symposium," said College President Julio Leon.

Arias was the president of Costa Rica from 1986 to 1990. The decade preceding his term was characterized by turmoil in neighboring countries. After taking office, Arias promoted his Plan for Peace. The accord was signed by all Central American presidents on Aug. 7, 1987.

For his efforts he was awarded

the 1987 Nobel Peace Prize. In 1988, he used the monetary award from the Nobel Prize to establish the Arias Foundation for Peace and Human Progress.

"He took the initiative to design something to lower the tension in Central America," Leon said.

"It is not very often one has the opportunity to hear a Nobel Prize laureate speak," said Dr. Erik Bitterbaum, vice president for academic affairs.

Leon said Arias' visit aids in promoting the College's international mission.

"Any student who is trying to prepare well for the 21st century ought to take the opportunity and come hear his thoughts on the current affairs of the world," Leon said.

The general public is also invited to attend the Symposium.

Arias will also speak to the International Media Seminar, a communications class that recently attended seminars in Paris. He also plans to hold a press conference and attend private receptions hosted by Institute of International Studies.

"It is a profound honor that he has decided to come," Bitterbaum said.

COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT/INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL STUDIES

Massa departure brings changes

By JEFF WELLS
MANAGING EDITOR

Musical chairs are being played on the third floor of Webster Hall after the pending retirement of Richard Massa, communications department head and director of the Institute of International Studies. Massa's departure from Missouri Southern after 27 years has resulted in three personnel changes thus far.

Dr. Jay Moorman, associate professor of communications, will become head of the communications department. Moorman is currently the assistant department head. He has been at Missouri Southern since 1991.

Moorman said his promotion will not be a catalyst for change.

"I just want to continue what Mr. Massa has set in motion," he said. "He, after all, is the department founder. My long-range goals are to continue what he has done."

Dr. Chad Stebbins has been named director of the Institute of International Studies. He has served as assistant director of the Institute of International Studies since February 1998. Stebbins has been handling finances for the Institute, scheduling and staffing classes for the international studies major and minor, working with faculty and students in

TURN TO PROMOTIONS, PAGE 8

College reacts to Kosovo bombings

By JEFF BILLINGTON
EXECUTIVE EDITOR

NATO's actions against Kosovo and the policies of Yugoslav President Slobodan Milosevic have become an important issue to Missouri Southern students from central and eastern European countries.

Adam Granicz, junior computer science and mathematics major, said his home country of Hungary is concerned about NATO's actions partially because of its proximity.

"We are probably the closest country to Yugoslavia," he said. "A lot of people think that since we are so close it affects us greatly. I'm sure you hear about it more here than in Hungary, even though we are much closer,

because America gets much more attention because of the military influx."

Granicz said even though Hungary is a member of NATO, its support of the operation is questionable.

"Most Hungarians at this moment favor no interaction; they are against military interaction," he said. "I think that since we have so many Hungarians over in Yugoslavia, we kind of fear that they might just come back and wipe out Hungarians there because we were on the wrong side."

Though Granicz believes as much as 50 or 60 percent of Hungary wants to stay out of the conflict, he favors interaction.

"I think I favor the military action against

TURN TO KOSOVO, PAGE 8

BOARD OF REGENTS

Southern hires part-time lobbyist

By PHYLLIS DETAR
STAFF WRITER

A need for more representation in Jefferson City was met last week when a part-time lobbyist was hired for Missouri Southern.

College President Julio Leon announced that Donna Simmons of Simmons and Associates, based in Columbia, has been retained for the position.

"We are confident she will do a great job for us," he said. "She will represent us during the sessions and will begin work immediately."

Four people were interviewed before selecting Simmons, said Dr. John Tiede, senior vice president. She began working on behalf of the College April 1. Her contract continues through May 31, 2000, and sets her salary at \$1,250 per month.

"She will report directly to Dr. Leon on a regular basis, and we also expect to get written reports periodically," Tiede said.

Southern was one of the few colleges in the state that did not have a lobbyist, said Steve Carlton, president of the Board of Regents. The Board approved the lobbyist position at its March 19 meeting.

“

We are confident she will do a good job for us.

Julio Leon
College president

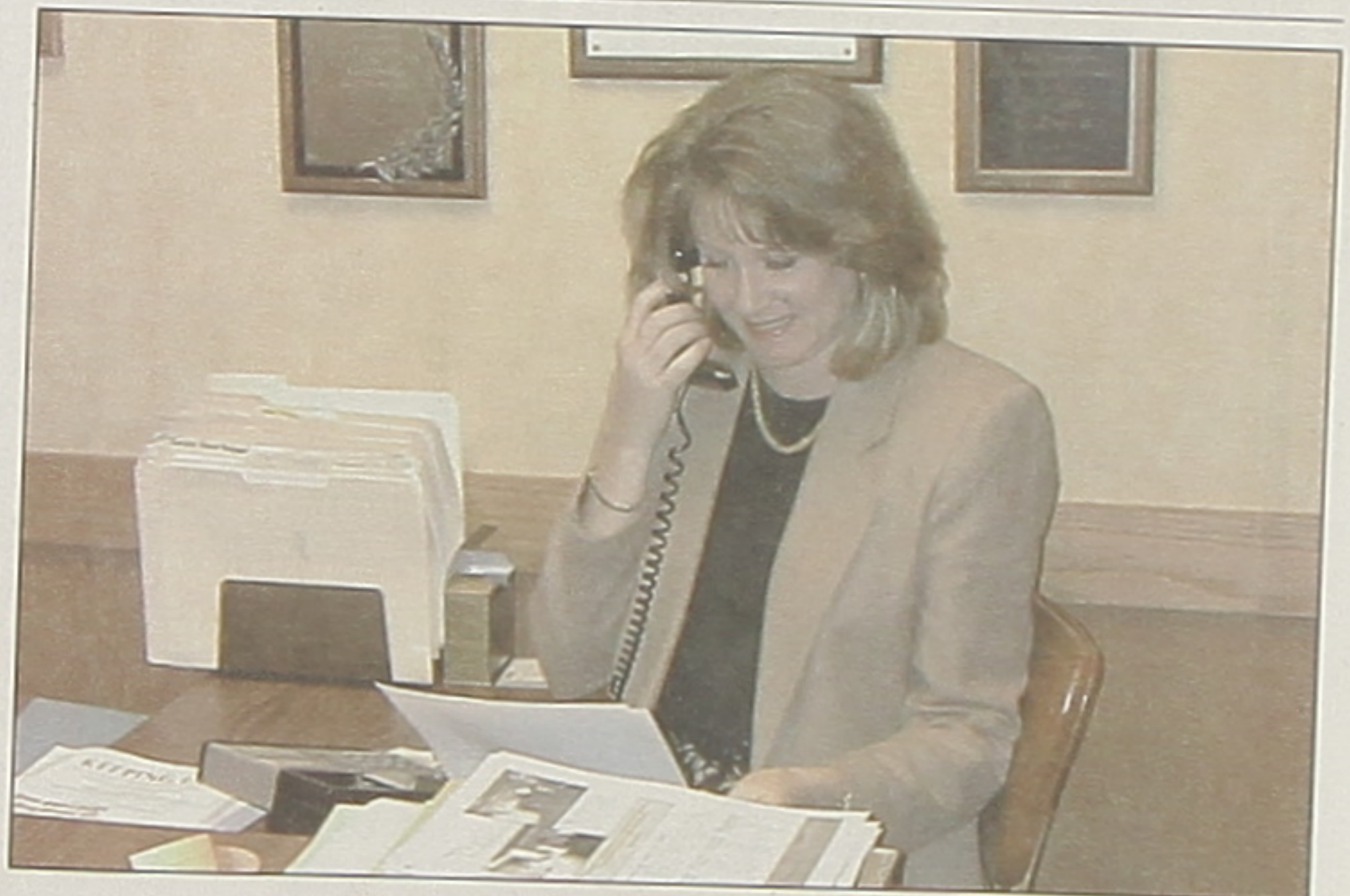
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Lobbyists do two things for clients. They speak on behalf of the entity they are representing, and also maintain a flow of information between that entity concerning issues of importance.

Carlton believes the flow of information back to the College is the more important of the two.

"We have had discussions with our legislators, and all of them have indicated they represent a large constituency and there are many entities needing to be represented also," he said.

TURN TO LOBBYIST, PAGE 11



Donna Simmons, the College's new lobbyist, returns telephone calls in the Capitol Tuesday afternoon.

GINNY DUMOND/The Chart



Crossing the Barriers:

Nidia Lopez works with Spanish-speaking patients at the Freeman maternity clinic. Section B page 14B

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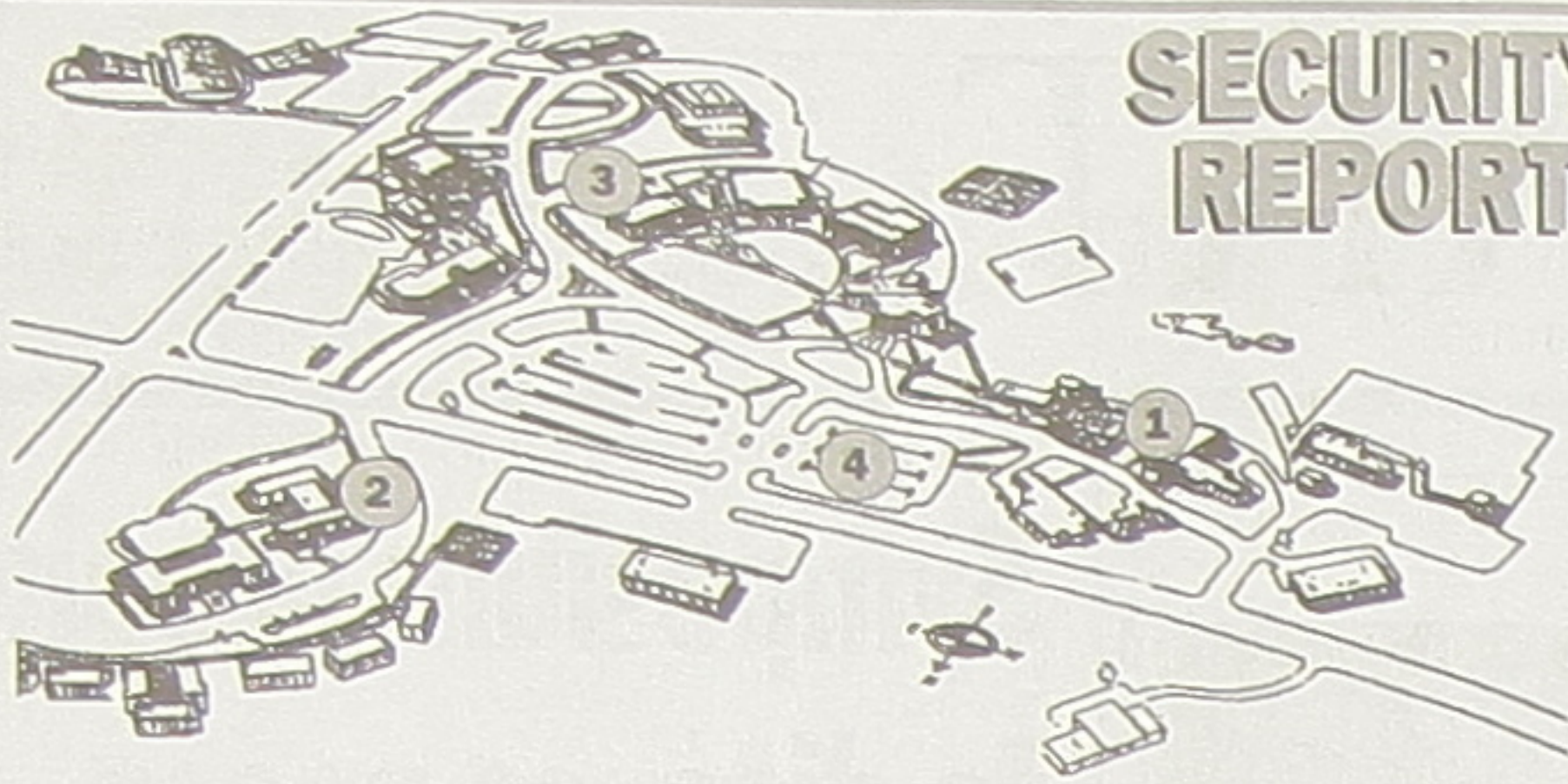
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SECURITY REPORT



- | | | | | |
|---|---------|---------|-----------|--|
| 1 | 3/26/99 | Lot #28 | 8:20 a.m. | Sherry LeMaster's vehicle was damaged by a trash disposal truck. Damage was confined to the rear fender and tail light. The driver of the disposal truck said he never saw the vehicle because the sun was in his eyes. There appeared to be no damage to his truck. |
| 2 | 3/26/99 | Lot #23 | 7:30 p.m. | Security advised a visitor about evading a security officer and the squealing of tires. |
| 3 | 3/30/99 | Lot #6 | 9:20 p.m. | A Ford truck owned by Steve Reed had rolled backward on the roadway. Security needed to move the vehicle and used an unlock tool to gain access through a window so they could move the truck out of the way. |
| 4 | 4/5/99 | Lot #38 | 9:25 p.m. | Leslee Mooney had parked her pickup on the lot and did not turn on her emergency brake. Security was advised that the truck had rolled into a car belonging to Mary Sampson. There was damage to both vehicles. |

All proceeds of all advertising go to The Chart, the student newspaper of Missouri Southern State College.

SCHOOL OF TECHNOLOGY

Rangers get Southern skills

By ERIN SELLERS
CAMPUS EDITOR

Police — minus the guns and the handcuffs — is a fairly accurate job description of a park ranger.

Missouri Southern's United States Army Corps of Engineers Park Ranger Safety Training is designed to teach park rangers how to diffuse threatening situations. The course runs April 19-23.

"It's a training course that provides [park rangers] with a lot of training on how to deal with people in situations that are not so pleasant," said Dr. Jack Spurlin, dean of the school of technology.

The Arkansas Corps of Engineers approached Southern with the idea for the program more than five years ago.

"They felt that they were having an increase of confrontational situations," said Dr. Blake Wolf, associate professor of criminal justice.

Curriculum for the 40-hour course consists of classes on how to deal with juveniles, substance abuse, domestic disturbances, and cultural awareness.

Although the course's curriculum is similar to the curriculum used to teach law enforcement, all the classes are designed especially for Corps of Engineers park rangers.

"It's the same kind of stuff we teach police officers, just from a different perspective," Spurlin said.

The classes are taught mainly by adjunct instructors that have other careers.

"We bring in a park ranger from Tulsa," Spurlin said.

Rangers have no legal power to carry weapons or place people under arrest.

Since the rangers are unarmed, the course focuses

on escape methods and self-defense, opposed to control methods for situations.

Twelve of the 40 hours is designated to teaching the rangers how to defend themselves.

"It gives us an opportunity to train from another angle," Wolf said. "[Park rangers] have their head and their mouth to rely on. That certainly limits their options."

"But on the other hand they don't have night sticks and guns, so the chance of a violent end is lower as well."

The course ends with a set of "practicals," a simulation of a disturbance that the rangers must face using the skills acquired during the first of the week.

"We let the rangers raid the situation and then we evaluate them," Wolf said.

Southern's ranger safety course is one of only a few programs nationwide.

"We were the only ones," Spurlin said. "Three or four different colleges contacted me about getting our program's curriculum."

Since the program is so new and one of only a few in the nation, the rangers who attend vary in job experience.

"We get folks who have been in the service for 25 years and also brand-new hires," Wolf said.

Rangers are not just from the four-state area. The course attracts rangers from as far away as Pennsylvania and Ohio.

"There was never really a required course for these guys," Spurlin said.

The goal of the course, Spurlin said, is "to help them do their job in a safe manner."

"They have a pretty tough job, because all of the same kind of problems you would encounter as a police officer occur in parks as well." □

What do You Think?

Let us know about questions or concerns facing the student body.
Speak out. Write to The Chart, and bring letters to Webster Hall Rm 333.

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HONORS PROGRAM

Kluthe replaces Ackiss as program director

By ERIC GRUBER
ARTS EDITOR

There are some "honorable" changes going on in the realms of Missouri Southern's faculty, which include a decade-long title being relinquished.

Dr. David Ackiss, director of the honors program, has decided to return to teaching full-time after more than a decade of heading up the honors program.

"I trained as an English professor, and I've had a wonderful detour for 12 years," Ackiss said. "I just woke up one morning and thought I want to be a teacher again."

STUDENT SENATE

Senate meets with officials

By ERIN SELLERS
CAMPUS EDITOR

The three top Missouri Southern administrators attended this week's Student Senate meeting. College President Julio Leon, Dr. John Tiede, senior vice president; and Dr. Erik Bitterbaum, vice president for academic affairs, discussed a series of issues the Senate brought up.

One of the major issues discussed was the future of *Crossroads: The Magazine*. The magazine's adviser had it pulled from the news stands after numerous mistakes were pointed out.

"We were not very excited about that last issue," Leon said.

Two main options were discussed about the future of *Crossroads*. The first was to eliminate the publication completely, and the other was to put it under the control of *The Chart*.

"Our concern is to make sure it does go in the right direction," Senate President Jesse DeGonia said. "A lot of people do not know what *Crossroads* is. Everybody knows what *The Chart* is and what Senate is and what CAB is."

Senators were also interested in the amount of money that goes to finance *Crossroads*, inquiring if the funds could go to the Senate instead.

"The only alternative we see for Senate funding right now is an increase in student enrollment," Leon said.

For now, Leon and the administration are looking into the *Crossroads*' situation.

"While we understand the frustration of the students, we want to find a way to develop a publication we can all be proud of," Leon said. "Heck, maybe we ought to go back to a yearbook. I think it is important to have a piece of history."

Still another option for *Crossroads* is to convert to a Web-based yearbook in which each student would submit his or her own picture.

Another issue of concern involved 88.7KXMS, Fine Arts Radio International.

"One day another senator and myself were sitting around Webster Hall with some other students, and I asked, 'Did you guys know that we have a radio station?' Every one of them said no," DeGonia said. "I see that as a problem."

Several senators brought up the idea of allotting one or two hours for student announcements and possible talk shows.

"I've been to other colleges where the people are like, 'Just turn on campus radio and you'll find out everything you need to know,'" junior senator Rob Huffman said.

The administration pointed out that the control of 88.7KXMS belongs to the Board of Regents. The station provides classical music to the four-state area.

Senior senator Janet Ferron said she thought that if the radio station was under student control it might attract more communications majors.

"No offense, but KXMS doesn't look as good on a résumé as the other local stations," she said.

"We do offer [communications majors] a diversity of experiences," Bitterbaum said, referring to internships several Southern students have at local radio stations.

But as far as changes in converting the radio station to anything other than a classical format, Leon's comment was, "None at this time."

The fact that Southern holds class on Martin Luther King Jr. Day was also discussed.

"What way is it to celebrate somebody's life by doing nothing, essentially a vacation?" Leon asked. "If we do anything on Martin Luther King Day, we will do it when we have class and recognize his life in a meaningful way."

A possible memorial service or convocation is an option for Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

Bitterbaum brought up the fact that starting next fall, as a way of encouraging students to take a foreign language, the classes are going to be available on a pass/fail basis. Students who are not majoring in French, German, or Spanish can opt to receive credit for passing, without it affecting their GPA.

"The whole idea is to allow students to explore without being fearful of their GPA," Leon said. "We are very interested in stimulating the taking of foreign language."

Leon said many colleges and universities are making foreign language a requirement for graduation.

"We have chosen not to do that, because it initially might be counter-productive," he said. "There are other ways to direct the interests of students to foreign languages."

The next Senate meeting is scheduled for April 28 at the Biology Pond. □

Ackiss said he has a great love for teaching and a desire to explore it further, which helped him to make the decision to leave.

"My favorite part of the week was the six hours in class," he said.

Ackiss said he thinks the honors program is a great job, and he "envis the people who are going to do it."

Dr. Pat Kluthe was recently named as the new director of the honors program. Kluthe is currently the assistant director of honors.

"I'm thrilled about it," she said. "I look forward to the opportunity, and I'm honored that the administration was confident in my abilities."

Kluthe has been the assistant director for the last 10 years. She has a Ph.D. in higher education administration from the University of Tulsa. She earned her master's from the University of Minnesota and her bachelor's from Southern.

Kluthe is emphatic with her feeling that the honors program is running smoothly, yet always has room for some improvement.

"I'm influenced by 'If it ain't broke, don't fix it,'" she said. "But, there always needs to be some change or the system becomes stagnant. I want to strengthen the program, but no major changes."

With Kluthe filling the director's position, it

has created a new vacancy — the assistant director position. Dr. Erik Bitterbaum, vice president for academic affairs, is accepting application until today. The applications will run through a search committee consisting of the four deans, Bitterbaum, Ackiss, and Kluthe.

"We have written a note to the community letting them know about Dr. Ackiss leaving the position," Bitterbaum said. "We will probably be making our decision by the end of April or early May."

After a recommendation has been made by the search committee, College President Julio Leon will make the final decision. □

SOUTHERN NEWS BRIEFS

College now offering foreign language awards

Beginning next fall, Missouri Southern is offering special performance awards for students declaring a major or minor in a foreign language.

The average awards will be \$1,000 per year for students who major in Spanish, French, or German and \$500 per year for students who declare a minor in Chinese, Japanese, Russian, Spanish, French, or German. The performance awards can supplement other academic scholarships the student may be eligible to receive at the College.

"This is another part of the implementation of our international mission," said College President Julio Leon. "In addition to providing hundreds of our students the opportunity to study abroad, these new awards to students of foreign languages underscore our commitment to prepare our students for the 21st century and the global economy."

Foreign language skills are increasingly important in today's job market. An increase in the Hispanic community's influence in the region makes Spanish a particularly valuable language.

"Having abilities in other languages can open many doors," said Tatiana Karmanova, director of Southern's International Language Resource Center. □

Film festival continues with Soviet propaganda

The anti-Nazi Russian film *The Rainbow* will be shown at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday in Matthews Hall auditorium.

The film is the final program in the 37th annual International Film Festival presented by the Missouri Southern Film Society.

The Rainbow details the suffering of a Ukrainian farm village during 30 days of occupation. Nazi sadism and brutality are dramatized by such atrocities as unburied bodies and young girls forced to become mistresses of Nazis. The wife of a partisan is tortured and executed when she refuses to disclose her husband's whereabouts.

In his *New York Times* review, Bosley Crowther noted that "this picture indelibly conveys the titanic burden of horror which the Russians were compelled to endure, and it carries an exalting impression of the courage of simple folks."

Single admission is \$1.50 for adults and \$1 for senior citizens and students. □

Career services office hosts job fair Wednesday

The career services office is hosting an education job fair from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesday in the Billingsly Student Center.

Representatives from more than 60 school districts have registered to participate in the event. All entry-level candidates and experienced education personnel are invited to attend. There is no advanced registration necessary and no registration fee.

Those attending are encouraged to bring several copies of their résumés. □

Enrollment begins Monday, with exceptions

Enrollment for the summer, fall, and Intercession terms begins Monday, although honors students, students with disabilities, and junior and senior varsity athletes and athletic trainers can begin registering for classes today.

Fifteen Intercession classes are offered. They include TV Drama Development and Production Around the World; Caves of Southwest Missouri; The Fiction of Raymond Carver; Medical Ethics; Espionage, Intelligence and National Security; and Cults in the United States.

Intercession begins Monday, May 24 and ends with final exams on Saturday, June 5.

Students with 90 or more hours can begin enrolling Monday. On Thursday, students with 60 or more hours can begin registering for classes. Students with 30 or more hours begin enrolling on April 19. □

I FEEL PRETTY



Jeremy Slye, Lebanon High School, receives a new style during a French skit Tuesday at Webster Hall Auditorium. Slye joined other area high school and junior high students in participating in Foreign Language Field Day.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE DEPARTMENT

Department branches into new area

Southern establishing base for partnecollege

By ERIC GRUBER
ARTS EDITOR

The criminal justice department is branching out in new territory.

In a cooperative effort, the Missouri Southern criminal justice department is working with Ozarks Technical College to provide education in the Springfield area. The program will help provide the Springfield area with criminal justice education, something lacking in that area.

"We will provide the first two

years of criminal justice classes so students can obtain an associate's degree," said Dr. Jack Spurlin, dean of technology. "The program has just started, and the first classes will begin this fall."

Under the agreement of the cooperation, Southern will provide the first two years of education at OTC for students wanting to study criminal justice. After completion, they will have an associate's degree from Southern.

"Eventually, they will pick up these courses as their own," said Robert Terry, head of Southern's criminal justice department. "In a few years, we will offer a four-year degree as well."

The cooperation is currently in place until OTC can develop its own degree

providing criminal justice studies.

"Springfield is a big market," Terry said. "And by doing this, we will have a student base in Springfield. After we establish a student base, then we will turn it over to OTC."

He said the program will lead the Springfield school to its own associate of arts degree, and Southern will also offer an associate of science degree as well.

"Crowder College has a similar program already in effect," Spurlin said.

The program at Crowder allows for students attending there to take courses and then transfer to Southern to obtain their bachelor's degree. But no matter if it's OTC or Crowder, the offer is beneficial to the schools as well as Southern. □

CRIMINAL JUSTICE DEPARTMENT

Southern provides Wal-Mart services

By MARLA HINKLE
CITY NEWS EDITOR

An alliance between the largest corporation in America and Missouri Southern will take place in the next few weeks. Wal-Mart has enlisted the services of its criminal justice department to help its safety and loss prevention program.

Dr. Jack Spurlin, head of the school of technology, says the program will benefit both Southern students and employees of Wal-Mart. The agreement will be signed in a few days.

"Southern will provide various classes that deal with loss prevention, internal theft and auditing, and other areas," he said. "We are excited about the venture," he said. "We feel highly honored Wal-Mart selected Southern."

Keith Aubele, division director of Wal-Mart's loss prevention program, says the

program will help increase the morale of employees.

"The program will be four to five years and will take employees through different phases," Aubele said. "The bronze, silver, gold, and platinum phases are achieved through their work during the loss prevention training."

Employees will be required to turn in a thesis at the end of training. The goal is to obtain a professional designate, which will be an LPP (Loss Prevention Profile) title. Aubele says Southern will give credibility to the program.

The program is offered all over the world, through mediums like Internet services and different colleges. Aubele hopes the program will create better managers with the ability to make better decisions and become better leaders.

"We are so appreciative of the relationship between Southern and Wal-Mart," Aubele said. □

OUR EDITORIAL

Unsigned editorials on this page express the opinions of a majority of The Chart editors. Observations elsewhere on the page represent independent viewpoints of columnists, cartoonists, and readers.

Senate needs fair allotment of finances

The semi-annual beating administered to *Crossroads: The Magazine* by the Student Senate occurred again this week.

Once again the Senate complained to the administration about the poor quality and obscurity of the publication. The Senate obviously wants a share of *Crossroads* money, therefore, they continue to attack the poor and suffering magazine.

The Senate should not have to attack *Crossroads* to get the funding they need.

The funding for the Senate, *Crossroads*, and the Campus Activities Board (CAB) all derive from the student activity fee.

The Senate distributes funding, usually in \$1,000 allotments, to student organizations. The organizations submit a request to the Senate. The Senate finance committee reviews the request and makes a recommendation to the entire body. All the Senators have an opportunity to dispute and debate appropriations.

However, even with the tightest grip on the purse strings the Senate does not have enough cash to perform this function for all organizations who come seeking funds.

Semester after semester the Senate runs out of money long before all reasonable grants have been heard.

This shortfall is no fault of the Senate.

Student groups are growing in number and there are more opportunities becoming available to these groups. Thus, the need for money from Senate is also increasing.

CAB was recently granted a funding increase by the Board of Regents.

To the Senate members, CAB and *Crossroads* may appear to be large older sibling taking more than their fair share at the dinner table.

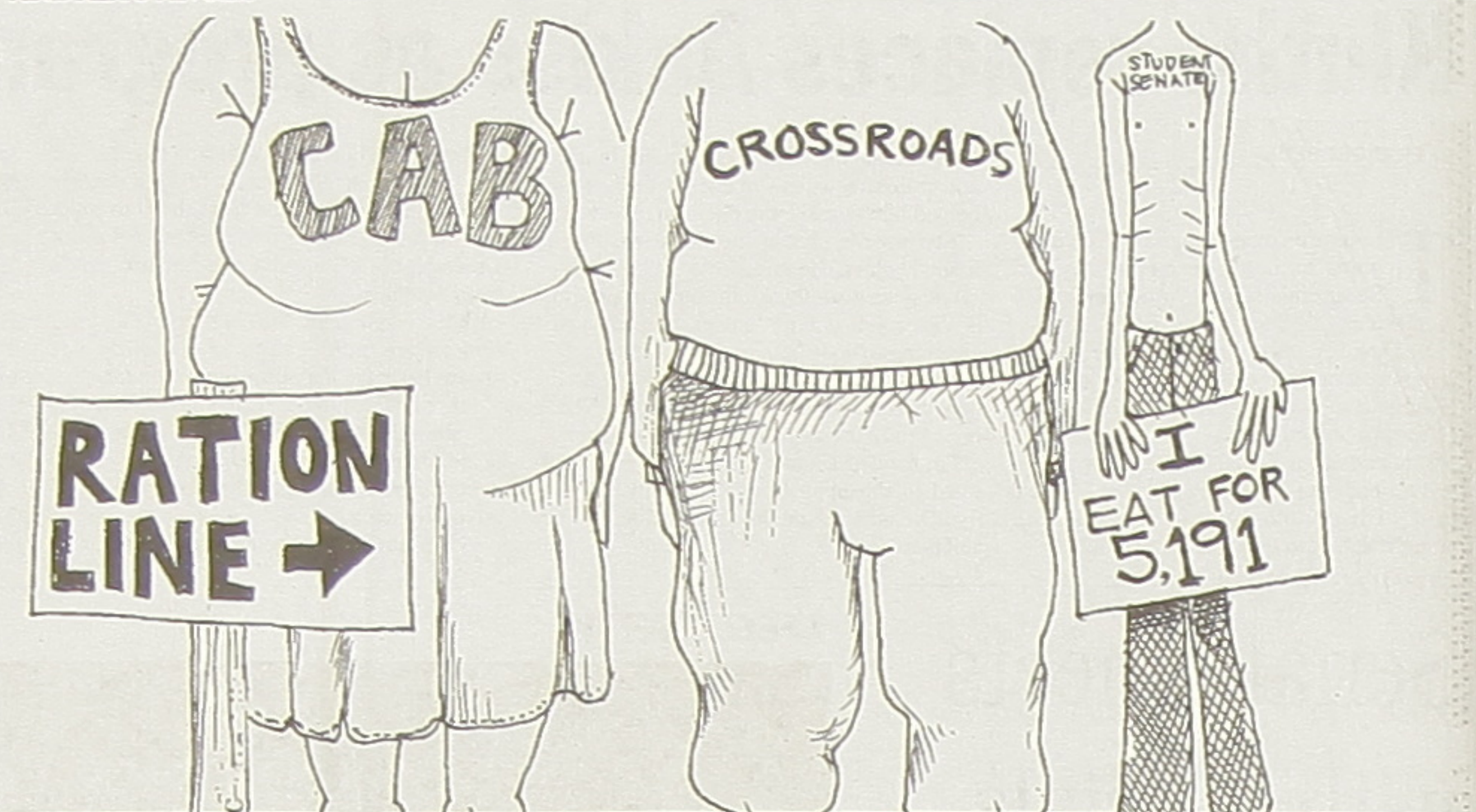
Senate, after all, is the elected voice of the student body of Missouri Southern. The Senate is starving and the fat cats are getting dessert.

Unfortunately it may become easy for some to confuse the issues and attempt to use the allotted magazine funds to alleviate pressure from the Senate budget.

The future of *Crossroads* and additional funding for the Senate must remain two separate issues. This can only be accomplished by the Senate receiving a bigger slice of the student-activity fee.

After they are full, then they should reevaluate their feelings about *Crossroads*. Then, maybe, the Senate can contribute some constructive criticism. □

ANDREA'S ANGLE



EDITOR'S COLUMN

Editor ends up like her mother after all

I never thought I would end up like my mother, but I was mistaken. I've realized that I have one thing in common with her, and that's our outlook on life: Make the most out of each day because you don't know which will be your last.

I've always tried to put all of my energy and effort into what I'm doing because I want to get the most out of it. My problem is, I try too hard. I could be classified in the same ranks as my mother as a, yes, overachiever. It seems that there are so many things in life to experience and so little time, and I try to experience it all as soon as possible.

As an overachiever, I tend to think more of the future, rather than the present. The problem is each individual day makes up the future; there-

fore, my focus should be on making each day the best that day can be.

I would much rather look back on my life and be happy and content with the things I did and not have regrets of missed opportunities. Mark Twain once stated, "Twenty years from now you will be more disappointed by the things that you didn't do than by the ones you did do...Sail away from the safe harbor. Catch the trade winds in your sail. Explore. Dream. Discover." Some days I think about all of the possibilities for my life and all of the new things to experience in life. How can anyone ever experience those things if they don't ever break free from their security circle and try something different?

This is the only time that we have to live this life; we cannot redo it. You never know which day will be your last. I want to make sure I live my life according to God's will and to the best of my ability. I know all too often I am impatient, and I don't want to wait on life's events to unfold for me. I don't want to wait on God's timing, because I want instant gratification; but I know when I do wait on God's timing, things will be better. I stop and try

to realize that everything will be OK in my life and that there is someone so much bigger in control of my life than me. By knowing that my life is under control, I am able to focus my energy on each day and the people in my day.

A saying on the back of one of my swim team shirts has stuck in my mind for a long time. "Attitude is a little thing that makes a big difference." Each day that I wake up, I try to think of all of the good things going on in my life or the good things I know God has in store for me. If I were to wake up each day and think about all the bad things that have happened to me, I would be pretty depressed. "Every morning is a fresh opportunity to find God's extraordinary joy in the most ordinary places," said Janet L. Weaver. I know everyone has their own "ordinary" places to find God's joy. Mine tends to be in my friendships and the relationships I have with other people.

Try not to get caught up in all of the stresses of life that you can't even crack a smile at someone and just be happy you are alive. Be grateful for each day you have and the opportunities they bring! □



Elizabeth Schurman
Assistant Editor

EDITOR'S COLUMN

Beware of stalking predators in our midst

Surely most students have experienced the eerie sensation. It happens between morning classes as you exit the building and head for the sanctuary of your automobile. Traversing the asphalt pad, you suddenly become aware of a presence behind. The slow crackle of loose gravel alerts you as the theme from *Jaws* plays in your head. It's obvious you are not alone — you've been pegged by the parking lot vulture!

You know the type. These drivers impatiently circle the crowded parking spaces anticipating an open spot. They find a "victim" and creep along beside to lay claim to their piece of the

pavement. Or maybe you've had the misfortune of driving behind one of these individuals. This actually proves even more annoying as they speed up and slow down trying to decide which row the walkers heading for. In a flash, the vulture locks in on its prey. As its car jolts forward, the driver speeds its feeding ground before fellow vultures lay claim to it. Finally, the string of cars slowly files through the lot and on to a better hunting ground.

Now I just admit, I can understand the rationale behind this parking lot shuffle. It is less than enjoyable to park on the far tundra, especially in inclement weather. Even with the installment of the new, latecomers still search for the favored slots. I don't help asking the question: Is it not quicker to go to a less crowded lot and get to class on time?

The bres between morning classes are prime time for watching since this is when the main parking lot is usually at capacity. Last semester,

I was blessed with an 8 a.m. class in Webster and a 9 a.m. class in Matthews and entered the vulture's domain to go from one building to the other. On more than one occasion, a driver sped off in a fit of disgust when I didn't enter a car and relinquish claim to their prize. Of course, carrying a placard stating I was merely trekking across campus helped to alleviate future frustrations.

Parking lot vultures are not indigenous to Missouri Southern — they present themselves in any crowded lot. Northpark Mall during the Christmas madness presents a perfect opportunity to spot these pests. There, the vultures create major traffic jams and wait quite impatiently as shoppers pack away kids, bags, and assorted items.

While these vultures appear to be a permanent fixture in our society, one thing is for certain. These birds, though annoying, will most likely never drop a surprise upon your windshield. □



Rhonda Clark
Associate Editor

The Chart welcomes letters from readers. Letters must be signed and include a phone number for verification. Letters should be 300 words or fewer. Submit letters to The Chart office on the third floor of Webster Hall, fax them to (417) 625-9742, or send via e-mail. Our e-mail address: Chart@mail.mssc.edu. Letters are due by noon Monday for publication in that week's edition.

IN PERSPECTIVE

Instructors must convey enthusiasm to students, not just skills

The rapid pace of technological development in today's society has reached the point to where it affects all aspects of our lives, and higher education is certainly no exception. For those involved in higher education, the growth of information technology brings new tools for our use, but also presents us with new challenges, such as educational CDs and classes over the Internet. As educators, we need to look at the effects of a changing society on the future of our students.



Daniel Marsh
Physics faculty

When we look at the results of our teaching, we attempt to determine the impact that higher education makes in our students' lives. A standard approach to determine the usefulness of higher education is to look at student success, which we measure by the

admissions of students to graduate and professional schools, along with the job placement of our graduates. Another valid approach is to look at the knowledge and information that graduates are likely to need and make sure those job skills are made available to our students. This is necessary, but in today's society, it is not enough.

In the world today, knowledge of skills is like many products with an "expiration date." In order to keep up with the changes in processes and products, one's job skills must be updated. In addition, with a changing job market, those graduating this year should expect to change careers at least once in their lifetime. This also will require the learning of additional skills.

How does one adapt to a future of constant change? Don't ever stop learning. We must realize that learning does not end with a diploma. All of us must continue a process of lifelong learning in which each person is responsible for their own continuing education.

What can we do as educators to prepare our stu-

dents for the future? Want to teach skills which are helpful for career development as well as basic skills. One essential skill, for example, is critical thinking. How can one teach critical thinking? One way is by teaching the scientific method to all students. Students must be shown the scientific method is a tool that will work for a and is not just for great scientists.

Other ways to teach critical thinking include looking at ideas or concepts to how they fit together. Students need to look for connections and interrelationships between ideas related to all this is the ability to ask relevant questions.

Another essential skill is creative thinking. It is important to realize that ideas and innovations are often the difference between success and failure in many fields. A different approach to many problems allows one to turn them into opportunities. We can help develop creative ideas by encouraging students to look at the world in new ways. In problem solving, we can show that many problems have more than one

correct way of solving them. We can show that better ways of doing things can always be found if one looks for them. Improvements are limited only by imagination.

Another essential skill is internalization, i.e., to not be satisfied with other people's explanations of things, however good they are. Each person must rediscover the world for themselves. In other words, everyone should not simply accept concepts, but should take concepts and make them their own. In order to understand ideas, you must prove them to yourself.

Finally, in addition to skills, we also must convey enthusiasm to our students. The need for constant learning and development is not just added stress in life, but a chance for personal growth. With change there is always opportunity. Most people have more ability to learn and understand than they believe they have. Often a person's intellectual development is limited only by their determination. So we must remind them to not limit their dreams, because one never knows how far your dreams will take you. □



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MUSIC DEPARTMENT

New music instructor teaches Suzuki to all ages



Helen Zhou, music instructor and assistant to Dr. Kexi Liu, enjoys teaching young students like Kyle Turner. She came to the United States in 1987. Zhou has been playing the violin since age 10.

Zhou loves children, admits adults are more dedicated to study music

By MATT DAVIDSON
CHART REPORTER

The music department at Missouri Southern has grown considerably within the last few years.

Last semester, it added another instructor to its staff.

Helen Zhou is the new music instructor in the department and assistant to Dr. Kexi Liu. Zhou teaches students the art of music, something she has enjoyed since age 5.

"I really enjoy teaching kids," she said.

"I really like them and I believe they really like me, too."

Zhou was born in Shanghai, China, and started learning music while playing the piano. At age 10, her father taught her the violin.

She came into the U.S. in 1987, attended school at the University of Houston, and transferred to the University of Southern California where she received

her bachelor's degree in advanced music performance.

She then moved to Atlanta, Ga., where her husband taught violin and viola.

Last semester she moved to Pittsburg, Kan., where her husband still continues to teach music.

Zhou is heavily involved in the Suzuki program at Southern, a program specifically for violin and viola students.

Zhou alternates teaching students ensemble music and solo practices because it helps them conceive a better understand of their playing.

She has taught a variety of students ranging in ages from 2 to 60.

"I love kids, but it seems to me that the adults are more dedicated to their playing," Zhou said.

She enjoys every aspect of teaching, including working under Liu.

"He is a great teacher and an excellent adviser," Zhou said.

"I couldn't be happier working under anyone else." At the current time, she has no plans to leave Southern.

"I like it here, and I know the students like it here, too," Zhou said. □

ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT

Graduate expects new standards

By JEFFREY RENZ
CHART REPORTER

Goals and motivation are the driving force for Missouri Southern's newest member of the athletic department.

"Immediately I want to make sure all athletic programs are up and running and to lay a good foundation for years to come," said Mike Lawrence, strength and conditioning coordinator.

He would like to see Southern set the standard for NCAA Division II ranks through programs, facilities, and staff.

"I believe positive attitude trickles down," Lawrence said. "If I have a positive attitude, the people around me are going to have positive attitudes. Motivation is key to any program, and I try to motivate through my attitude."

This Joplin native believes "character is the foundation upon which a person is built, and a strong character can help you get through the tough times."

"Some of my greatest moments I've had in dealing with athletes is to be able to see them gain confidence through the weight room," Lawrence said. "And then to carry that confidence over into the world. That is great satisfaction and a great motivator for me."

After graduating from Joplin High School in 1986, Lawrence came to Southern.

He was a free-safety on the football team, but mainly played on special teams.

Lawrence graduated from Southern in 1991 with a degree in marketing and management.

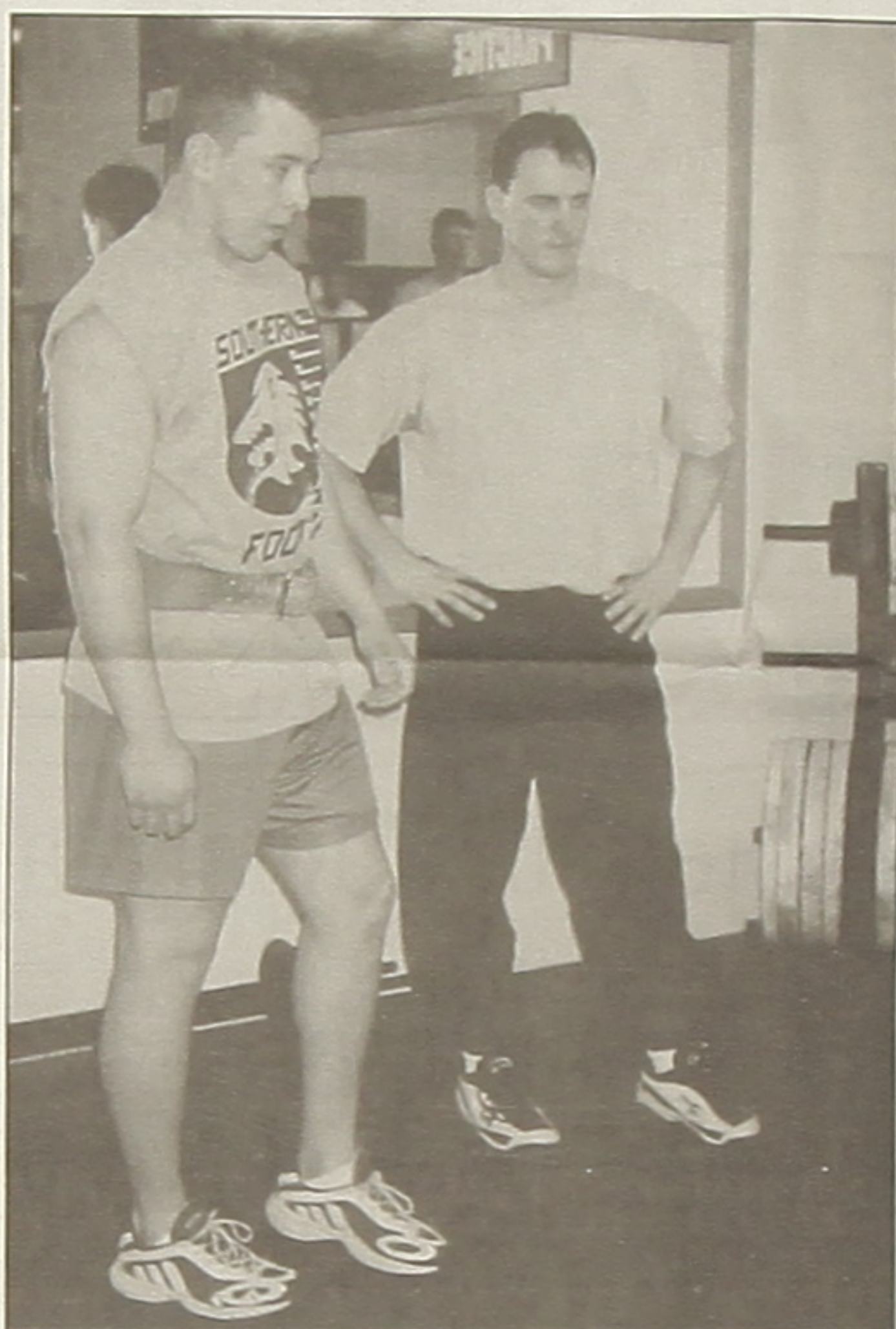
After graduating, he moved to Florida to work for a company that did marketing for health clubs.

"Even though I was involved with the fitness industry, I missed the competitive and athletic side of fitness," Lawrence said.

He returned to Southern, and in December 1994, earned a second degree, this one in education.

After obtaining his degree he moved on to work for the Detroit Tigers as an assistant strength and conditioning coach.

He worked with such players as Alan Trammell, Kirk Gibson, and Cecil Fielder.



Mike Lawrence (right), Missouri Southern's new strength and conditioning coordinator, works with Shawn Greer, senior marketing major, in the weight room. Lawrence, a Southern graduate, has returned home.

"The hardest part of that job was getting the athlete motivated to go to the weight room simply because they didn't have to," Lawrence said. "They were born with the gift to play pro baseball."

After the Tigers, Lawrence returned to the area again, this time as an assistant coach at East Newton High School for football and baseball. He then moved on to take strength and conditioning jobs at Delta State and the Olympic Training Center at Lake Placid.

Smiling, Lawrence said he gets excited watching Evan Dyrberg,

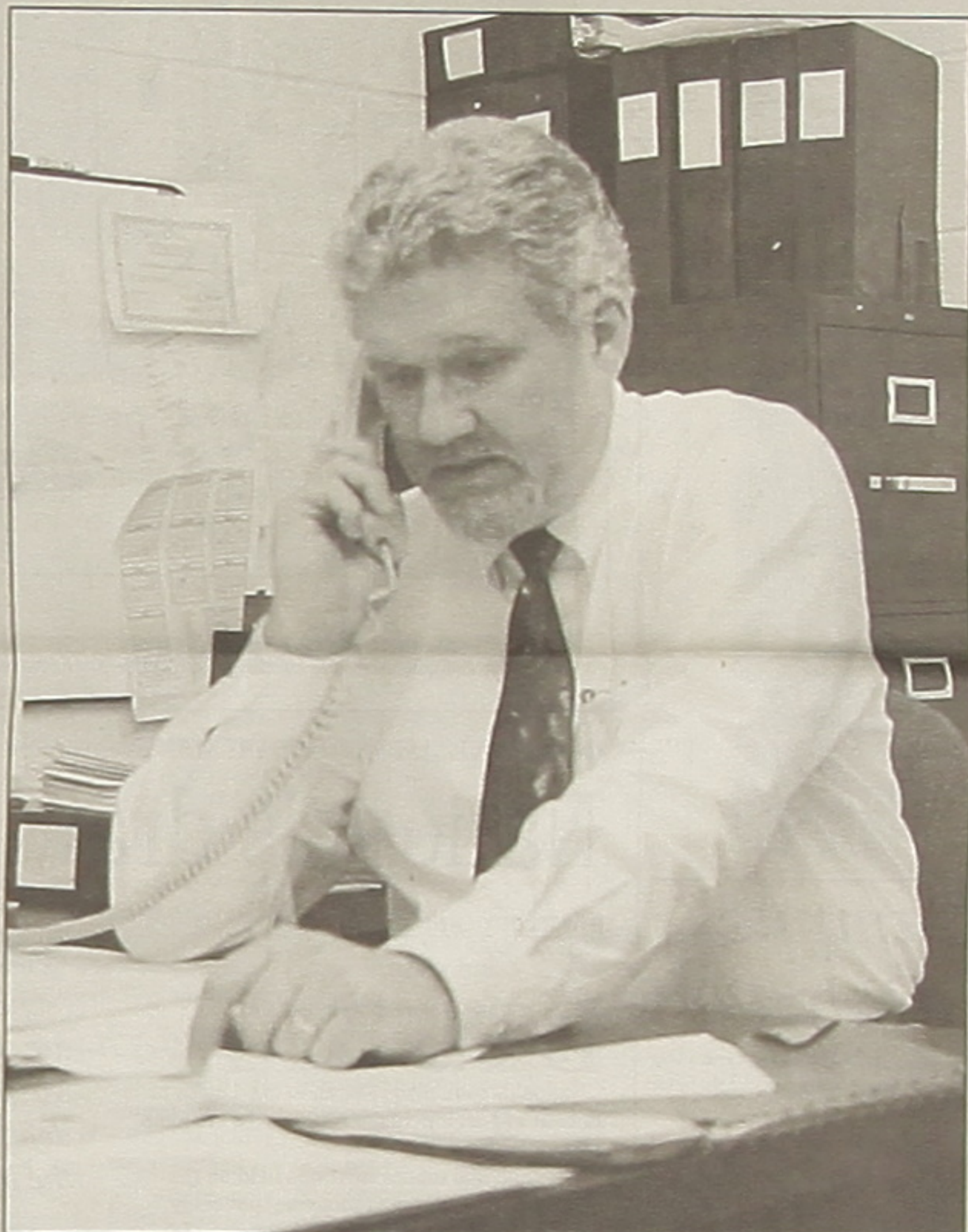
freestyle skier, and John Minahan, downhill skier, as well as other athletes he helped at Lake Placid, and it's a joy for him to see them do well.

As in the past, Lawrence returns to Southern, and to home, but not as a student. This time it is as an instructor and motivator.

"I feel like I'm surrounded by great people here [at Southern]," he said. "This is one of the best staffs I've been associated with from top to bottom."

"I've gone from being 26 hours away from home to being home. It's nice to be home." □

RESPIRATORY THERAPY



Jean Erwin's involvement in the respiratory therapy program spans some 30 years.

Erwin enjoys occupation

By SETH WOMACK
CHART REPORTER

Respiratory therapy has been Jean Erwin's passion since his high school years.

The new respiratory therapy instructor has had an interest in the medical field since his first job at a nursing home.

In fact, the only time Erwin spent outside of the medical profession was the four years he spent as a member of the Marines.

He served as what he calls a "ground-pounder."

"Twenty years ago I worked with two young sisters with cystic fibrosis," Erwin said. "Them dying at such a young age really impacted me to help people with these kinds of problems."

Erwin has been a respiratory therapist for 30 years. In this time, he has watched technology drastically improve in his field.

"Back in those days, people with cystic fibrosis didn't live too long," Erwin said. "Now people with this disease can live into their 30s and 40s. It's very amazing."

Missouri Southern's respiratory therapy program, in its fourth semester, has continued to gain interest from students.

Applications for the program have been overwhelming.

"We have many applicants for the degree, but we only have so many spots to fill," Erwin said. "I'm very pleased with the program."

He discussed the program's development.

"Six years ago, I saw an ad in the newspaper for help starting a respiratory therapy program at Franklin Tech," Erwin said. "It was only a certificate program over there. We wanted to upgrade it to a degree program, and we felt that Southern had the best reputation in the four-state area."

Erwin received a bachelor of technical science at Thomas Edison University. He went to respiratory therapy school at Biosystems Institute in Phoenix, Ariz. He is continuing his education by getting his Ph.D. in homopathy, which focuses on using herbs as an alternate means to conventional medicine.

His outlook on the usefulness of herbs is partly inspired by the belief prevention is the best medicine.

"Years ago all we could do was wait until someone got sick, and then we would treat them," Erwin said.

"Now we can prevent them from getting sick."

His upcoming Ph.D. will go hand in hand with his wife of 30 years' current business: Rose's, a local health food store. Erwin devotes a great deal of his time to helping run the business.

Erwin has three sons, all of whom are "all grown up" and in their 30s. He also has several grandchildren.

"The grandkids occupy a lot of our spare time," he said smiling.

In his spare time, Erwin also enjoys soccer and fishing.

"I'm more of a watcher [of soccer] than a player," he said with a chuckle. □

"Outstanding Teacher Award"

Show your appreciation and support—Nominate an outstanding teacher

The two persons designated as Outstanding Teachers will win an award of \$1,000 each.

Nominations may be made by faculty, alumni, and students. Nomination forms are available in the Learning Center, Matthews Hall, Billingsly Student Center, Reynolds Hall, Spiva Library, Hearnes Hall, Kinesiology Building, Kuhn Hall, Justice Center, Ummel Technology, Alumni Office, Fine Arts Complex, Taylor Hall and Webster Hall. To be eligible, faculty must be full-time, be teaching at least six credit hours a semester, and be in their third year of teaching at Southern. Forms should be completed and placed in the campus mailbox 110 in Office Services, Hearnes Hall Room 106, NO LATER THAN FRIDAY APRIL 23, 1999.

Campus Calendar

If your organization has an event you would like publicized, call Erin Sellers at 625-9311.



■ "Month of Caring," a volunteerism drive for the United Way. To get involved contact Sandy Fisk at 625-9392.

Today

Enrollment begins for honors students and varsity athletes.

Monday 12

7:30 p.m.—
Gockel Symposium at Taylor Auditorium

Tuesday 13

12:15 p.m.—
Meeting of students with disabilities, Learning Center

Wednesday 14

noon—
CAB meeting in BSC room 310.

6 p.m.—

Dance and cheer squad clinic in Young Gymnasium

Thursday 15

6 p.m.—
Dance squad tryouts are in Young Gymnasium.

CAMPUS APPRECIATION WEEK

Event attempts to restore school spirit

Campus Activities Board plans a week of festivities to celebrate the campus

By ANGIE WILLIAMS
STAFF WRITER

April 18-22, Dr. Ann Marlowe and the Campus Activities Board will be encouraging school spirit with Campus Appreciation Week.

Marlowe, professor of English, initially thought of having an appreciation week due to Missouri Southern's 60th anniversary, the Biology Pond's 25th anniversary, and Joplin's 125th anniversary, but it seemed time to add another to the list.

"We have a beautiful campus," Marlowe

said. "We need to promote Southern and get the community involved."

Sunday will kick off the festivities with a poetry fest from 2 to 4 p.m. in the Lions' Den where people can come and listen to different readers. All interested persons may read, but Marlowe asks that they contact her first.

From 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday and Tuesday, in the cafeteria, a film called "Nature's Symphony" will be playing to show the true beauty of nature through music and video. At 11 a.m.

Wednesday, in the Lions' Den, Dr. John Messick, head of the biology department, will give a lecture on the subject of ecodynamics.

Thursday, Earth Day, will be packed with different activities from awards ceremonies to live music. At 12:15 p.m. near the Anderson Justice Center, there will be an

awards ceremony for the winners of the essay, poem, and photograph contest. The contest is open to any student, alumnus, faculty, or staff member.

To enter, contestants may submit a one-page essay, poem, or photograph of a favorite nature scene on campus and turn it in to Marlowe in the English department or Matthews Hall Room 214.

The winner will receive postcards of the pond.

Following the ceremony, there will be a planting of a tree, an event Marlowe hopes will continue every year.

At 2 p.m., Dr. Jim Jackson, professor of biology, will speak about nature, if weather allows, by the Biology Pond, and lead a wild-flower walk.

At 4 p.m., CAB will begin its activities with a rock climbing wall, followed by live music.

The bands that will play at the Earth Day festivities are Fern, 456, Mychicksaseal, and Carbon Star.

AmeriServe is also participating in Campus Appreciation week by holding dinner outside in front of the BSC.

Desiree Petersen, junior graphic arts major, said the CAB is trying to make Southern more enjoyable.

"Hopefully, with more money, we'll also have more student participation," Petersen said. "Come out and see how your money is being spent."

The CAB would also like to see other organizations on campus get involved by setting up booths or presenting speakers.

"I'd like to see it become a second Homecoming, but for academics," Marlowe said. "I want the campus to be appreciated and people to enjoy getting involved." □

ENJOYING GOD'S CREATION



ERIN SELLERS/The Chart

Kristin Banks, sophomore speech communication major (left), and fellow Koinonia member Kerri Trevarrow take time to feed the ducks on the Jacksonville landing during the Koinonia Spring break trip to Florida. The group did mission work at a Florida camp.

COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT

Nationals draw debaters to California

By MELODY LANING
STAFF WRITER

Beaches and a tan were not the only things on Missouri Southern debaters' minds while in San Diego, Calif.

Nationals took place March 24-30. Topics to debate and arguments to refute were the main reason for the trip.

"The national tournament was held on the campus of Point Loma Nazarene University," said Curt Gilstrap, director of forensics. "It sets right on the cliffs butted up against the Pacific."

"There are eight preliminary rounds and six elimination rounds. Our team of Tad Stricker, sophomore political science major, and Steve Doubledee, junior speech communications major, made it to the elimination rounds. Our team of Shellie Meador, sophomore sociology major, and Joe Day, junior speech communications major, were next out to break to elimination rounds."

While Southern didn't actually place, it did receive recognition for its overall success among 300 universities.

"Southern placed third overall in Seasonal Sweepstakes," Day said.

"They took your school's four best tournaments and top two teams and calculated the rankings from there. Out of our four best tournaments, we closed out three of them, and at districts we (Meador and I) got second and

“

Our performances to date are superb, proving that Missouri Southern is a definite forensics leader in the Midwest.

Curt Gilstrap
Director of Forensics

”

the other team (Stricker and Doubledee) received fourth."

Just ahead of Southern was Colorado State in second place and Carroll College in first.

Seasonal Sweepstakes at the national tournament was not the only area in which Southern's debate squad breached success. Success at state tournament action Feb. 19-21 at Central Missouri State University also added to its list of triumphs during this year's season.

"Southern closed out debate finals with Stricker and Doubledee winning first place and Meador and Day winning second place," Gilstrap said. "Chris Carr placed fifth in pro-

gram of oral interpretation. Day placed sixth in impromptu speaking."

"Meador also placed sixth in communication analysis. Stricker and [John] Shadwick (junior history major) both made elimination rounds in Lincoln-Douglas debate. Doubledee placed fifth in debate speaker awards, and Stricker placed second. Stricker also advanced on to semifinals in impromptu speaking."

Gilstrap's impression of Southern's debate squad appears well earned.

"Our performances to date are superb, proving that Missouri Southern is a definite forensics leader in the Midwest," he said. "We lost a few of our top individual event people this semester, and so we were not able to attend nationals in speaking and interpretation, though we proved we are exceptionally competitive in these areas as well."

With nationals complete, Gilstrap intends for the debate squad to catch up on academics and to begin preparing for the incoming head coach, Kelly Larson.

This also signals students interested in debate or individual events to contact Gilstrap or Larson.

There are no prerequisites for a person interested in joining the squad, but a background in forensics is always helpful.

"I got involved in debate in high school," Day said. "At the time, I was interested in becoming an attorney and my speech teacher encouraged me to get involved in debate." □

SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

Contest brings out brightest in high school business

Winners of each category receive \$100 scholarships

By ERIN SELLERS
CAMPUS EDITOR

On Wednesday morning, 589 high school students took over the school of business. It marked the 21st Missouri Southern Business Contest.

"We seem to give a lot of recognition to sports activities. This is a way to spotlight academics," said Dr. Beverly Block, coordinator of the Business Contest.

The students from the 26 participating schools arrived at Southern Wednesday

morning and proceeded to take a series of tests.

Each student may take up to two tests in categories ranging from beginning accounting to computer concepts. The tests are graded immediately.

"We have a precise grading system because [the tests] have to be graded rather quickly; we present the awards at 1 o'clock," said Dr. Jim Shaver, professor of accounting and the coordinator of program distribution.

The top three students in each division are recognized, with the first-place winner receiving a \$100 scholarship to Southern. The top school in each division receives a trophy.

"The contest allows students to see how

they do against students from other schools," Block said.

Pierce City took home the most awards this year with 14 awards, including four team trophies and the division two sweepstakes trophy.

Another award given out is the dean's performance award.

The recipient of this award is decided by taking the total number of points earned on the tests by each student from a participating school and dividing that number by the total number of students who participated from that school.

"The big schools have the advantage because obviously you have a better chance to win if you have more students. We

thought [the dean's performance award] gave an opportunity for small schools to win," Block said.

Although Block stresses that recruitment for Southern is not the contest's main objective, it does bring some exposure for Southern.

"It gets high school kids on our campus, and that's never a bad thing," Shaver said.

Block said the school of business is planning some change for next year's contest to commemorate the year 2000.

"We have plans to make it even better," she said. "It takes a lot of effort on a lot of people's parts, working together as a group, to put on something like this, and I think we do that quite well." □

SCHOOL OF TECHNOLOGY

Awareness speaker talks abuse

By BRIAN WIRTH
STAFF WRITER

April is National Child Abuse Awareness Month, and there will soon be a seminar at Missouri Southern to address the subject.

The child abuse seminar will be from 2 to 4 p.m. Monday in the Anderson Justice Center auditorium. The main speaker will be Dr. Lynn Mouden, associate chief of the Bureau of Dental Health at the Missouri State Health Department.

"The vast majority of child abuse injuries occur in the head and neck area," Mouden said. "Dentists are in the perfect position to be able to tell if child abuse has happened."

Mouden has 25 years experience in the dental field. He had his own practice for 16 years, and has seen and reported many cases of child abuse.

Mouden co-founded the Prevent Abuse and Neglect through Dental Awareness (PANDA) program. The program began in Missouri and has spread to 37 states and five foreign countries.

Mouden speaks at many seminars in America, Eastern Europe, and the Pacific Rim.

"In six years, I have done about 200 seminars," he said.

At Southern's seminar, Mouden will talk about how to prevent child abuse. A few of the topics to be discussed are cases that can be identified in clinical and nonclinical situations, history of family violence, violence versus accident: how to tell them apart, normal conditions that may look like violence, and the legal and liability issue including how to report child abuse.

Mouden invites anyone interested to the seminar.

"The seminar is for anybody in health care, education, day care, criminal justice, or anyone who works with children," he said.

Tia Strait, assistant professor of dental hygiene and assistant to the dean of technology, encourages persons interested in helping child abuse victims to attend the seminar.

"People who are in health care and in law enforcement should know the signs of child abuse," she said. "They are in the position to see the signs of it more often. The seminar will be very interesting and helpful, and we invite anybody to come." □

Meeks jives and swings with last performance

By **CASSIE HOMBS**
STAFF WRITER

Missouri Southern soon will be saying goodbye to another familiar face after this year. Robert Meeks, assistant professor of music, is serving his last semester at Southern. Tuesday night, after 13 years of faithful service to the music department, he conducted his last jazz band concert.

Many students and faculty members are sorry to see him go.

"He's taught me more and has done more for me than any other teacher here," said Wes Smith, senior music major.

Meeks' talents, dedication, and love of music were just a few of the traits he brought with him to Southern in 1986.

"I admire his devotion not only to MSSC, but to his profession and most of all to his students," said Dr. Susan Smith, assistant professor of music. "He will be greatly missed by all of us, not only for his teaching but for his personal friendship and caring."

In addition to conducting the jazz band, Meeks also led the Lion Pride Marching Band and color guard for many years.

Lance Burnett, a senior music major who took part in both bands, admires the career Meeks built for himself.

"He's had a wonderful teaching career," Burnett said. "And his experiences just add to it."

"It's too bad he's retiring."

Students on the other side of the department agree with the instrumentalists.

Monica Hilderbrand, senior music education major,



Bob Meeks (left) directs the band as Lance Burnett takes a trumpet solo during the jazz band concert Tuesday night. This concert was the last with Meeks as a faculty member. He is retiring after 13 years of teaching at Southern.

remembers Meeks' open-mindedness when it came to music.

"I remember when I wanted to sing with the jazz band, and Mr. Meeks didn't think I was serious until I tried to enroll in Jazz Improv," she said.

"I loved singing with his band. He's a great person to work with, and I'm really sad he's leaving."

And although it is agreed upon throughout the halls of the music department that Meeks will be greatly missed, the memories of his hard work will remain long after he is gone.

"He has made a fine contribution to the music department and the College," said Dr. Pete Havely, head of the music department.

"We will all miss him." □

CAMPUS ACTIVITIES BOARD

'Giants' are coming to Taylor Auditorium

By **VINCE SWEENEY**
STAFF WRITER

Much excitement is taking place for the arrival of the band, They Might Be Giants, who will be appearing in concert at Missouri Southern.

Desiree Petersen, president and concerts and novelty chairman of the Campus Activities Board, is hoping for a good response from the students of Southern and the people of Joplin. They Might Be Giants will be performing at 8 p.m. Tuesday, April 27 in Taylor Auditorium.

"We wanted to put on a show that would put Southern on the map," Petersen said. "The last good show we had was George Carlin, but it wasn't here. This will be put on at Southern."

The Mike Shelly Band will be opening, and They Might Be Giants will take the stage around 9 p.m. The band is within the CAB's price range and popular enough to bring in a crowd.

They Might Be Giants has been around for a while, and established themselves in the 1980s.

"They did a lot of work for the 'Tiny Tunes' show," she said. "So anyone who has seen the 'Tiny Tunes' has heard They Might Be Giants and probably don't know it."

Val Carlisle, coordinator of student activities, said Petersen began preparing for the concert in November.

"She called around and surveyed about 600 people," Carlisle said. "The Urge actually came in first, and we tried to book them and it didn't happen. They Might Be Giants came in second."

Carlisle said close to 150 student tickets have been sold. As of Monday, 60 to 70 tickets were sold to the public. There have been advertisements on television and radio since Saturday.

"In one week, I think we have sold all the way to Row K, but we need more," Petersen said. "We need to sell more tickets. If this is a success, we will have even better concerts."

Petersen thinks They Might Be Giants is classified best as a pop alternative band.

The CAB expects a good concert and a big crowd to be on hand. If it does prove to be a success, Petersen plans to start a tradition of having bigger bands on campus at least once a year.

Tickets are now available in the Billingsly Student Center Box Office. Admission is \$10 for students with ID and \$15 for general public. The BSC Box Office can be contacted at 625-9669 or 9366. □

SPIVA ART GALLERY

Exhibit displays faculty art

By **CHRIS ROBERTS**
STAFF WRITER

It is not often that the faculty and staff of Missouri Southern get to show off their creative side, but for the next couple of weeks they are doing just that.

Currently on display at the Spiva Art Gallery is the faculty's exhibit "Beyond Department Walls." It is a compilation of various artistic pieces created by non-art faculty from Southern's campus.

The artwork varies from colorful paintings, to professional photography, to fine ceramic work, and even into unusual costumes. These pieces were all made by faculty spanning from all over the campus.

Some of the pieces seem to be generating more attention than others. One such piece is the intricately wrought rag rugs found in the middle of the gallery.

"Those are my favorites," said art department secretary Joan Kearney. "Dayna Spencer (part-time teacher) is amazing. I've had a number of people ask me if they were for sale, and if not, whether she could teach them how to make them."

Spencer is not the only one to have offers on her artwork. Dr. Gwen Murdock, professor of psychology, also has been asked whether she would sell the photographs she has on display.

"I would be happy to sell my work," Murdock said. "And my husband (John Couper) sells quite a bit of his work, too. He is more of a fine art photographer than I am."

The photos they are showing were taken on Murdock's sabbatical in Tanzania. Kearney

says their work brings out much emotion from onlookers.

"It's neat to sit back and watch their responses," she said. "Most people 'ooh' and 'aah' at the pictures of the lions sleeping, but the responses to the babies on the wall are the best."

The pictures of the babies were taken by Jane Kleindl, who is affiliated with Southern's school of business. They are two large oil paintings of a baby with its mother.

"Most people walk by and say how cute they are, then as they start to move on they do a double take and are shocked at what the pictures really represent," Kearney said.

She believes the show has brought about a great response from the community.

"We've had more people around for this show than I've seen for any of the others," she said. "I've seen people here that I've never seen here before."

The faculty are happy with the response, too.

"It's really great to be able to show our creative side," Murdock said. "I'm glad that Val Christensen sent out the memo at the beginning of the year."

Christensen, in charge of booking shows for the gallery, said the faculty responded better than he had hoped.

Kearney echoes his opinion.

"This show is really a very nice show," she said. "It is much nicer than I had thought it would be. I think it's all really neat."

"Beyond Department Walls" will be on display until April 16, at which time the gallery will make way for the senior shows set to end the semester. The gallery is open during school hours and is free to everyone. □

Video game provides nourishment for baseball nuts

Triple Play 2000 has baseball gameplay without the drunken fans

By **ERIC GRUBER**
ARTS EDITOR

Baseball season has arrived as quickly as a McGwire-driven homer over the fence at your nearest stadium.

But the latest video game from the Triple Play series by Electronic Arts Sports tempts individuals to forget the boring road trip and stay home to see a good ballgame.

Triple Play 2000 is full of realistic gameplay and superb graphics, while at the same time featuring all 30 American League and National League teams and more than 700 real Major League players.

The graphics are quite spectacular, full of depth and excellent resolution, while giving each player different visual characteristics such as size and detail. The different choices of stadiums to choose from are high quality replicas of their counterparts. One such close to home example is Kauffman Stadium, home of the Kansas City Royals. Gameplay is fairly easy to control



ERIC GRUBER
Arts Editor

In Review

and learn, with the added bonus of not having to hold down three buttons at the same time just to throw a curve ball.

Options include one or two player vs. the computer, or even head-to-head match up.

Other options include a radar gun; setting the number of innings to 1, 3, 5, 7, or 9; wind; weather; time of day; and several different camera angles to view the game. One can even choose any stadium to play in, even if it differs from the

stadium of the teams playing.

There are many other options that allow the player to customize his or her game. Such other options include signing a free agent to the roster, creating a new player, trades, and even the ability to warm up a relief pitcher in the bullpen when the current moundmonger is tired.

The only disadvantages of *Triple Play 2000* is that some of the stadium resolution of the crowd could be much improved.

But, I suppose that seeing the crowd isn't half as important as playing the game.

Also, there is a cheesy, cartoonish sound when some foul balls are hit. It kind of takes away from the realism of the game.

Also, even though the roster is as recent as Jan. 31, 1999, it has changed since providing some inaccuracy. But, this being a small nuisance is easily forgivable considering the quality of the game.

Overall, *Triple Play 2000* is an excellent game worthy of some



SPECIAL TO THE CHART

highly serious gameplay.

It is a must for any serious baseball enthusiast/gamer as well as the not so serious.

The one thing this game is thankfully missing is the ability for the players to go on strike, although

the ability to fire all of the greedy ballplayers would have been a neat feature.

Triple Play 2000 is available at Toy's R Us for \$39.99 on the PlayStation and \$49.99 on the Nintendo 64. □

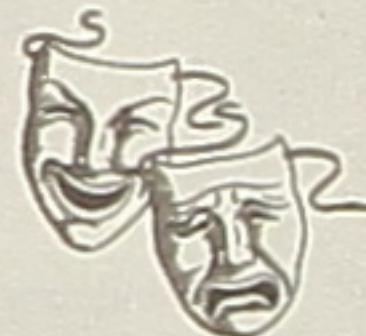
Friday,
April 9, 1999
Page 7A

Arts Showcase

Arts

Calendar

If your organization has an event you would like publicized, call Eric Gruber at 625-9311.



Stone's Throw Dinner Theatre in Carthage, presents "Einstein." Dinner begins at 6:30 p.m. and the program begins at 7:30 p.m. "Einstein" will be showing April 15, 16, and 17. Those wanting more information can call (417) 358-9665

Sunday

11:30 p.m.—
Joplin Piano Teacher's Honor Recital
Webster Auditorium

Tuesday

13:1 p.m.—
"Vellinger Quartet"
Lecture Demonstration
Webster Hall

Thursday

15:7:30 p.m.—
Flute Recital
Dr. Katherine Kelmer
Webster Auditorium

6:30 p.m.—
Stone's Throw Theatre Presents
"Einstein"

KOSOVO: Opinions on bombing issue, ground troops differ

From Page 1

Serbia," he said. "They must be weakened because they can do a lot of bad things. I've been living here for the last couple of years now, so I probably tend toward the American view which is seeing liberty for all."

"If I was coming from Hungary at this moment, I would probably say no intervention," Granicz said. "No military actions, try to work out something because it's getting worse and worse and the people there are just very much against any western Europe or American influence."

Tatiana Karmanova, director of the International Language Resource Center, said she disagrees with the approach being taken by NATO toward Kosovo.

"My first reaction was shock, because I was not expecting it," she said. "I thought it was totally wrong, I don't think bombing is the way to solve international problems in this time and age."

Karmanova said she sees the tactics being used as only more damaging.

"I don't see clearly where they're going and what they intend to achieve," she said.

"I mean obviously they will damage

Serbian military forces considerably, but what will they bring as far as peace for this region? I believe this will escalate the crisis."

Karmanova said the reason she was shocked by the situation is because of the involvement of NATO.

"NATO, in my opinion, is not an organization that should be taking charge in this situation," she said. "NATO is a military alliance that was formed during the Cold War. The purpose of NATO was to deter the expansion of the Soviet Union and the zone of influence."

Karmanova said because NATO is a defensive organization, it should not be involved in a country's civil war. She also explained that when former Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev disbanded the Warsaw Pact, NATO agreed not to participate in this kind of activity.

"The understanding was that there would be no military attacks by NATO; that's why Russia is very upset," she said.

"Of course, what Milosevic is doing to the civil population is horrible, but I believe that you should first prove that all peaceful means were exhausted."

Alex Pavlova, senior graphic arts major, said outside help is needed because of the status of the Albanians.

"It is a civil war, but the people are a minority; they are suffering a great deal," she said. "If it's a civil war and there are things being done wrong to people, women and children, I think there should be help."

Pavlova, a native of the Czech Republic, said people are misconceived about who is involved in the situation.

"A lot of people think the U.S. shouldn't interfere, but it's not just the U.S. It's the whole NATO, other countries, European as well," she said. "They solve the problems of other countries, and good things and bad things come out of it."

Karmanova said the situation concerns her.

"I don't think we should start a new century with a military conflict of that nature," she said.

"As a Russian, I cannot help but think of the consequences to the U.S.-Russian relationship, and unfortunately they've been damaged already."

"I don't think bombing someone into submission is a good policy," Karmanova said. "It looks like its reactions to their own frustrations. I think it's building the crisis."

"It might lead to Vietnam or to a Cold War." □

PROMOTIONS: Faculty members fill roles

From Page 1

arranging and promoting study abroad, and working with area media in publicizing activities of the Institute.

Stebbins will continue to serve as adviser to *The Chart*, a post he has held since 1984.

"I can remember the day Dr. [College President Julio] Leon unveiled his vision for an international mission to the Board of Regents," he said. "I have closely followed the mission's progress over the years and last year become actively involved in its implementation."

Stebbins, who has made five trips abroad in the last two years, helped the College secure a \$55,000 grant from the U.S. Department of

Education in 1997 to internationalize its journalism and environmental health programs.

The grant money will pave the way for the establishment of a World Press Center on the campus of Missouri Southern.

"The international mission is a work in progress," Stebbins said.

"Richard Massa has laid the foundation, developed some policies, and put many things in motion. The real challenge will be continuing the momentum and demonstrating to the state that the mission enhancement dollars have been wisely spent."

Rick Rogers, a December 1998 Southern graduate, has been named assistant adviser to *The Chart*. Rogers was editor-in-chief of *The Chart* in 1996-97 and was named Missouri College Journalist of the Year. He is currently the sports editor of the *Carthage Press*.

"I'm very excited about carrying on the traditions of *The Chart*," Rogers said.

He hopes to help the students achieve new goals and reach new heights. □



Dr. J.R. Moorman
Communications
Department Head

KOINONIA

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College Heights Christian Church

Thursday lunch — 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.
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DANCE TRYOUTS: THURSDAY, APRIL 15 6:00 P.M.

CHEER TRYOUTS: FRIDAY, APRIL 16 6:00 P.M.

DANCE CLINIC: APRIL 13-14, 6-9 P.M.

CHEER CLINIC: APRIL 14-15, 6-9 P.M.

CLINICS AND TRYOUTS WILL BE HELD IN THE ROBERT ELLIS YOUNG GYMNASIUM. THERE IS NO REGISTRATION FOR TRYOUTS PRIOR TO TRYOUT WEEK. REGISTRATION WILL BE FILLED OUT AT THE CLINIC PLEASE BRING INSURANCE INFORMATION TO CLINIC OR YOU WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO PARTICIPATE.

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APRIL 20
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WH210

TEST
THURSDAY,
APRIL 29
12:20 P.M.
WH210

All out-of-state students who plan to graduate in May, 1999; July, 1999 or December, 1999 who have not taken U.S. Gov't or State and Local Gov't in a Missouri college should see Pat Martin, H318 on or before April 15 to sign up to take the test.

Please note: Students taking this test must pay a \$5.00 fee to the Business Office, H210, prior to taking the test; and present your receipt to the instructor when you enter the test room.

All Aboard

Purchase plan brings hope to historic Joplin landmark

By JEFF BILLINGTON
EXECUTIVE EDITOR

Nearly 30 years have passed since the Southern Belle pulled out of Joplin, ending the 58-year career of Union Depot as a passenger railway station.

As Union Depot, located behind the main Joplin post office at Langston Hughes-Broadway and Main Street, saw the last of its customers leave Nov. 3, 1969, it embarked on an unsure future.

The depot was inaugurated on June 30, 1911, with the arrival of Kansas & Texas Train No. 85. It was designed by renowned architect Louis Curtiss and was considered, in style, almost 20 years ahead of its time.

The heyday of the depot was considered to be from the time of World War I through the 1920s. Business slowed during the Depression, then picked up again during World War II.

Following the closing of the depot, it has changed hands several times and also became the center of a legal suit.

In March 1980, Innovative Management and Investment, Inc. of Columbia purchased the building to restore it, but this failed.

In February 1984, Emerald City Investors, Inc. purchased the building from Innovative Management and Investment, Inc., planning to restore



NOPPADOL PAOTHONG/The Chart

Graffiti stains the interior and exterior walls of the historic structure, in the form of elaborate designs, names, and slang and vulgar terms.

the building for use as a possible restaurant and lounges.

The following September, the Joplin chief building inspector, Ted Tankersley, announced the 73-year-old building had been tagged as a dangerous building.

In 1986, Nancy Allman purchased the building with hopes of restoring it. Her struggle with the restoration ended in 1991 with Rainey Roofing and Sheet Metal Co. foreclosing on the second mortgage it held on the building.

The last eight years has seen the building continue to deteriorate and be a home to vagrants and vandals.

About two months ago, what may be the salvation of the Union Depot occurred.

"We made an offer to purchase [the Union Depot] to the state Historic Preservation Office," said Brian Marlow, executive director of Main Street Joplin. "It took them about 30 days to get back with us. When they got back with us, they approved our offer."

He said Main Street Joplin has now been given one year to purchase the building.

"That's been, I guess, two, three weeks ago," Marlow said. "Our plans now are to form a task force, that will be comprised of about 50 people, to look at our options as far as development."

He said some of the options the board will have to consider is whether Main Street Joplin will develop it alone, team up with a developer, or just clean it up and resale the depot.

"There's just a bunch of options, including the funding options," Marlow said. "If we develop it, we have to look at where we would get the money, what's our purpose in developing it, and what's the best use for the building."

Today, the depot is virtually gutted of most of the interior due to nature, vandals, and past renovation projects.

"The structure's in good condition, the cosmetics are pretty bad," Marlow said. "As far as structure, foundation, all that's in really good shape."

He said even though there have been unsuccessful attempts at restoring the building in the past, he does not think that should set a precedent on the building's future.

"The more time somebody attempts to renovate a building or do a project like that and it fails, then of course it's going to look like it can't be done," Marlow said. "I think that we have the capability to put a project like this together."

He said the decision to purchase the building was not a snap judgment.

"It was a thought process," Marlow said. "We decided it's a key building to the revitalization of downtown."



NOPPADOL PAOTHONG/The Chart

Though marred by three decades of neglect the main lobby still holds clues to its elaborate past. The round molding above the ticket booth is a ghost of a lobby clock, and layers of filth cover a graceful floor design.



NOPPADOL PAOTHONG/The Chart

The depot was put on the National Register of Historic Places in 1973.

Main Street Joplin is an organization that focuses on a four-point approach to downtown revitalization including promotions, economic development, organization and design, and historic preservation. Marlow said the Union Depot falls into the categories of economic development, design, and historic preservation.

He said he believes the reason the depot was allowed to fall in disrepair in the first place was because of the view of the early 1970s.

"The name of the day was new, build malls, build new streets, and be progressive," Marlow said. "Nowadays, progressive is saving our downtowns, making them fun again."

He said the exact future use of the building is undetermined, but there are several ideas for it.

"One of the best ideas I've heard is using it for some kind of transportation industry museum, something that's going to draw some traffic from other parts of the area," Marlow said. "More of a public use facility rather than having it used for just private offices."

"The building really belongs to the public. It's been here ever since 1911, and it was a public building when it was built, and now it's a historic property. It should be open to the public, whatever's going to generate the most traffic and uses the building to its fullest potential."

Marlow said a long-range goal would be to bring Amtrak to Joplin, once again allowing passenger train access via Joplin.

"I think Oklahoma City, Tulsa, Joplin, Kansas City would be a great route," he said. "Tons of people on a daily basis travel from Joplin to Tulsa or Kansas City, and it should really be used that way. That's how it was used in the past."

Marlow believes the restoration and future use of Union Depot will have a positive effect on the surrounding area.

"With Landreth Park over there — that's a great public area — they can feed off each other," he said. "It will probably open that area up for more development." □



Special to the Chart

Union Depot as it appeared in its heyday. It began service on June 30, 1911, with the arrival of Kansas & Texas Train No. 85.



NOPPADOL PAOTHONG/The Chart

Fenced in to help protect it from vandals, the Union Depot sets empty awaiting a future project which may save it from destruction or collapse.

Voters turn out to decide issues, several races

APRIL 6 BALLOT ISSUES

Statewide Proposition A

Yes
543,876
No
735,266

Proposition B

Yes
634,361
No
678,256

Joplin R-8 air conditioning

Yes
7,458
No
3,082

East annexation in Joplin

Yes
6,153
No
2,515

Annexation in the proposed area

Yes
160
No
318

Missourians reject concealed weapons

By MARLA HINKLE
CITY NEWS EDITOR

A number of key issues were rejected by voters in Tuesday's elections, including both the annexation and concealed weapons.

Six issues were presented to voters. The issues included Proposition A, which dealt with establishing a service charge of up to 50 cents a month to every wireless telephone number for the purpose of funding the wireless 911 service.

Proposition B addressed the concealed weapon debate.

Gaps between those in favor of the concealed weapon issue were decidedly close, with those in favor totaling 589,821 compared with the 643,117 votes against.

The issue of the cell phones was defeated statewide.

The "hottest" issue among area voters was annexation and Proposition B. This proposal went down to defeat by 318 votes.

For the annexation to occur, a majority of voters in the designated annexation location and a majority of Joplin voters had to support the issue.

Some of the arguments for annexation included the access area residents would have had to 24-hour police and fire protection, lower property taxes, and lower home owners' insurance rates.

Proponents thought the annexation would affect increased property values as a result of planned, coordinated growth, income assistance from the city if hooked on

to city services, and access to sewer service and clean, safe water.

The City Council had voted to eliminate the \$13 city property tax if the annexation was approved. Not all voters were enthusiastic about the annexation.

"I look around downtown Joplin now and see the condition of the streets," said Jake Kamm, senior elementary education major at Missouri Southern.

"If they can't take care of the city now, they certainly couldn't handle another 8-square-mile piece of land. On the issue of concealed weapons, I think it is an individual's right and responsibility to carry a weapon."

Marion May, Joplin, had strong opinions about both the annexation and Proposition B.

"I'm in favor of the annexation because I want Joplin to grow," he said.

"As far as I'm concerned, they should annex all these little cities like Duquesne and Duenweg and maybe even Webb City. They are almost part of Joplin anyway."

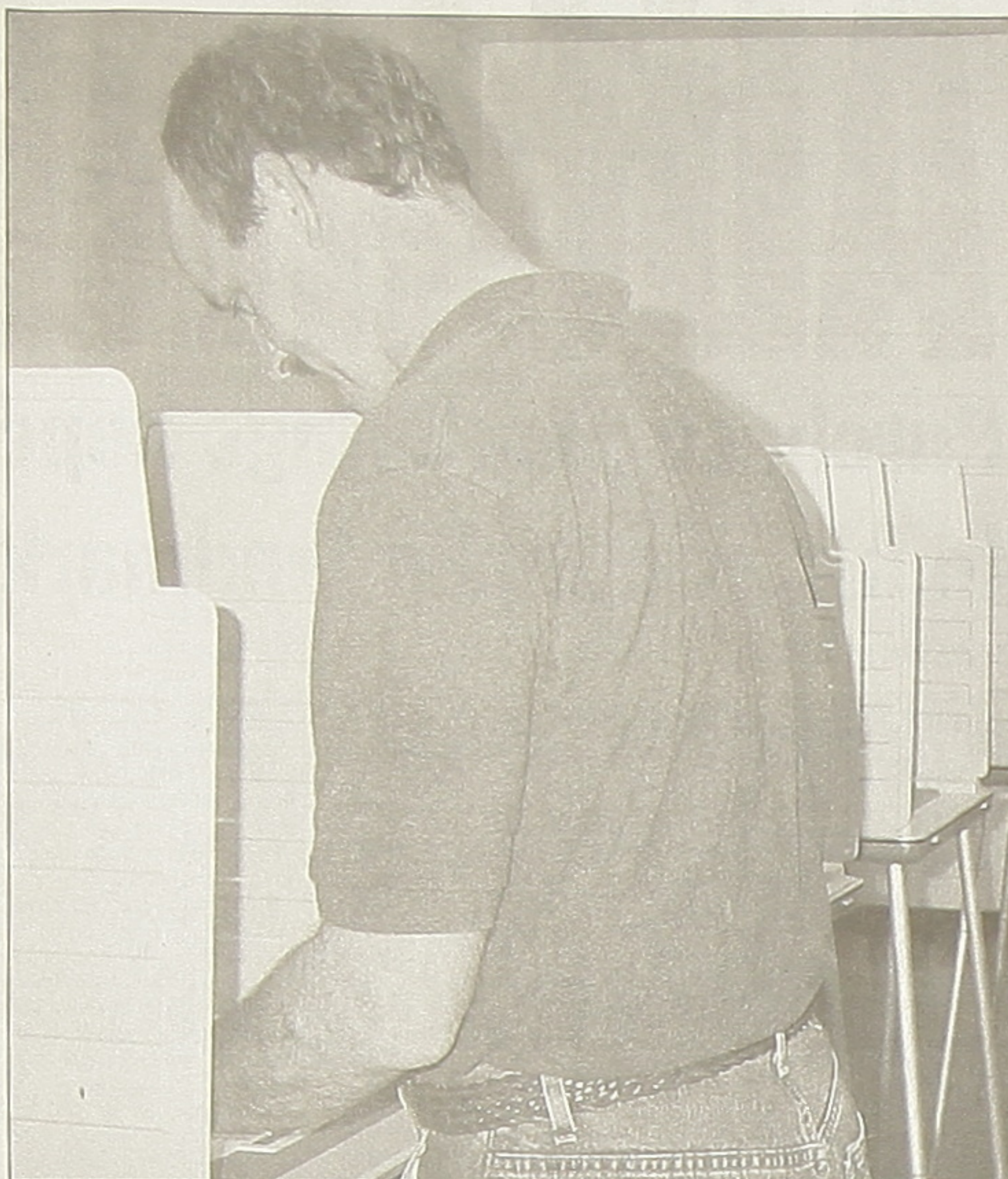
"I'm against concealed weapons because this is supposed to be a civilized country, and I don't think we need to have people carry guns around."

Voters were in favor to approve the \$6.75 million Joplin R-8 bond issue for air conditioning.

The district's 11 cent debt service will be extended by six years. Those in favor were 7,458, and those opposed totaled 3,082.

Voters elected Robert (Bo) Lee, Kim Woodard, and Rodney A. Blaukat to three-year terms on the Joplin school board.

Charles McGinty and Jerry Black were replaced by Lee, Blaukat, and Woodard. □



MATT MADURA/The Chart

Jim Meador, Joplin, casts his vote in the April 6 elections at the Anderson Criminal Justice Center at Missouri Southern. The voter turnout was large, even for a spring election, with the number of registered voters totaling 64,453 in Jasper County.

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Tanya Robbins, historical services coordinator with the Missouri National Guard, works on foam cut-outs of Missouri for the museum to use as bulletin boards for museum information.

Museum honors state's soldiers

By GINNY DUMOND
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Paying tribute to some of the state's most called-upon servants is the purpose of the new Museum of Missouri Military History, which recently opened on the Ike Skelton Training Site in Jefferson City.

"Our mission is two-fold," said Tonya Robbins, historical services coordinator with the Missouri National Guard. "First, we would like to acquaint non-military people or civilians with the National Guard's importance to Missouri's history."

"Secondly, we're here to help increase esprit de corps [or spirit of the corps]. It says we're trying to get individuals to see themselves as a unit and to be connected to the past."

A past, Robbins believes, that is filled with important and noteworthy events.

"A lot of units we have in Missouri can be traced back to the 1800s," she said.

Rep. Jon Dolan (R-St. Louis), a captain in the National Guard, sees great importance in the museum's existence.

"I think it's vital for the state to recognize the citizen-soldier throughout its history, from our days as the Gateway to the West, through President Truman's service in WWI, to the modern-day soldiers currently serving in and out of harm's way," he said.

Robbins hopes to see an increased interest in National Guard history.

"We hope to eventually get some school groups through and attract peo-

ple who are here to visit the Capitol building," she said.

Robbins said the museum has been well attended since its March 27 opening.

"There have been a lot of walk-throughs looking for grandpa's picture or looking for a picture of themselves," she said.

The museum, which showcases weaponry, battalion flags, and uniforms through the last 90 years of Missouri National Guard history, also includes an Aleutian Islands exhibit dedicated to the service of southwest Missouri's 203rd Unit and its service in Alaska during World War II.

Among the more unique items in the exhibit are the original Civil War uniforms and weapons that are, currently on loan to the museum.

Due to the split loyalties of Missourians at the time of the Civil War, Missouri has an interesting history in that area, Robbins said.

She said the museum started because the National Guard accomplished little in the way of commemorating its history in Missouri.

"Because there was an obvious deficiency, there was a movement to culminate history and artifacts into a museum," she said.

Dolan thinks the museum will play a role in helping Missourians understand the importance of service.

"It's essential that Missourians recognize through the museum the faithful service of their neighbors, family members, and/or fellow citizens," he said. □

HIGHER EDUCATION NEWS BRIEFS

SMSU regains education honors from NCATE

Southwest Missouri State University's Professional Education Unit has been accredited by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) at both the initial teacher preparation and advanced levels.

SMSU is one of 58 university Professional Education Units that received either initial or continuing accreditation by NCATE in its most recent round of decisions. The next NCATE visit to campus will take place in 2003.

"As a team we were very impressed with the tremendous amount of change and strengthening of programs that had been accomplished at SMSU during the last three years," said Dr. Ana Maria Schuhmann, NCATE board of examiners team leader and dean of the Kean (N.J.) University school of education. "A lot of hard work and dedication went into this process. I congratulate SMSU for displaying the high quality necessary to be granted national accreditation."

SMSU received initial accreditation from NCATE in 1984, but was denied reaccreditation in 1994. SMSU appealed NCATE's decision in 1995, and the university's appeal was denied.

SMSU's Professional Education Unit is an umbrella organization that encompasses six academic colleges and approximately 200 faculty who teach, advise, and/or supervise students in a professional education role. □

Diversity Week brings visitors to Southeast

An international delegation of university officials representing institutions around the globe will take center stage at Southeast Missouri State University next week as the Cape Girardeau school observes "Celebrating Our Diversity Week."

Sixteen international visitors representing 12 institutions and organizations with whom Southeast has exchange programs are coming to the campus April 11-17. They include the president of Aichi University, Japan; the president of Hogeschool Limburg, The Netherlands; the vice chancellor of Orebro University, Sweden; and the president of Université Montpellier II, France.

Southeast's annual International Festival-International Carnival gets under way at 4 p.m. Sunday in the University Center. Each day of the week will be designated as a "Regional Day," and on each day a different region of the world will be featured through food, photos, and artifacts.

Dr. Ronald Takaki, regarded as the nation's foremost authority on multicultural education, will present a public lecture at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday titled "The Multicultural Millennium: Diversity and the Academic Community." □

Central journal available now in bookstores

A national literary journal published by Central Missouri State University's department of English and philosophy is now available in bookstores.

Pleiades is a semiannual journal containing poetry, fiction, translations, essays, reviews, notes, and experimental prose. Rose Marie Kinder, executive editor, said growing interest among its readership and the increased quality of the publication has led to additional funding this year from the Missouri Arts Council.

Although *Pleiades* is open to submissions from any writer, Kinder said it provides an excellent opportunity for many Missouri writers to have their work published. *Pleiades* has been picked up by Ingram, a national distributor of journals.

Ingram plans to make the publication available in about 700 bookstores nationwide. Such major retail outlets as Hastings and Barnes and Noble Bookstores will carry the journal. □

HIGHER EDUCATION

Law would aid student teachers

By GINNY DUMOND
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Extra funding to reach schools in critical need areas may give college education departments across the state a boost.

There are bills in both the House and Senate that would, upon passage, create a loan-forgiveness program for teachers who teach in specified areas.

While there is currently a statute in place for teacher loan-forgiveness with the Coordinating Board for Higher Education, it has been inactive since 1988.

"The problem with that one is that it's not really clear on the loan-forgiveness," said Paul Waggoner, legislative liaison for the CBHE. "They (legislators) feel that law's not adequate, so they just proposed a new law rather than messing with the old one that's on the books."

The legislation includes a combination of Senate Bill 388 and Senate Bill 428 on that side of the legislature, and House Bill 563. The House proposal would allow education majors to borrow up to \$4,000 per year for two years with a reduction in loan costs of \$4,000 per year for every year of service at an eligible institution.

Waggoner said the issue does not center around the number of available teachers, but around those willing to teach in rural and inner-city school systems.

"There are certain districts that need an extra tool to help school districts that are having trouble attracting teachers," he said.

Dr. Cameron Pulliam, director of student teaching at Missouri Southern, said he thinks there may be a teacher shortage in both geographic and academic areas.

"I get calls regularly for special education teachers, for science teachers, for music teachers, for math teachers, and for middle school certified teachers," he said.

Pulliam says he thinks financial assistance in this area would be especially helpful for Missouri Southern.

"I think if there were some help available it would benefit us because we draw from a large rural population," he said. "I think we would have more students enrolling here if they had some support."

A recent trip Pulliam took with some education students to Kansas City, he says, helped him see the need for educators in the urban or inner-city areas.

"They gave us material to give our students to try to entice them to teach there, so I know they have critical need," he said.

Waggoner says that while the CBHE will not have direct control over the program if it is passed, the Board has a vested interest in developing a workable program with legislators and state education officials.

"Obviously it affects students in higher education, so we're going to be interested in it and use whatever information we may have that will produce a better bill," he said. □

EDITOR'S COLUMN

Prop A defeat loss for Missourians

The fiery nationwide debate that encompassed Missouri's Proposition B may have had a profound impact on the statute's counterpart during Tuesday's election.

At least that's the hope I cling to in explaining to myself and others the demise of Proposition A, a measure that would have required wireless phone users to pay up to 50 cents per month to establish a more effective 911 service for wireless phone users.

It seems education made all the difference. A majority of citizens at polling facilities across the state could have easily and eloquently stated their feelings regarding the concealed-carry proposal, but how many were looking at the idea of

Proposition A for the first time?

What is the word that jumps up and grabs an individual looking at the proposal for the first time? Fee.

People across the state don't know about the fatal accident near Diamond that occurred Thanksgiving Day 1997. It is widely thought the accident could have been avoided if emergency 911 assistance had been in place.

Rural versus urban politics and political thinking also may have very easily played a large role in the measure's defeat. Those voters who have always lived in an urban setting may not see the need for a service that patches a cellular phone through to the nearest emergency service facility. There are often multiple facilities in a small radius of one another in large cities.

The story is different for those of us who are used to traveling windy country roads. There is not always an interstate connecting the point of departure and the destination point for those traveling across the state.

If those who voted against the proposition were fully informed and

are ready to give me "50 good reasons why and they're all pennies," I will be both astounded and saddened.

This measure, if passed, would have been beneficial to all Missouri residents. Those without cellular phones would be better able to receive emergency services, and those in emergency situations would be more efficiently served in this, the technology age, when there is liable to be a wireless-telephone-packing individual around every corner.

There's no denying that Proposition B was a big deal for the state. It was the kind of thing that entices movie stars and first ladies, and that's not the problem. The problem lies in the fact that we failed to educate more than 50 percent of the voters in Missouri about an issue that has the potential to affect just as many Missourians.

I will continue to believe the measure was overturned because people simply misunderstood the issue.

It's unbelievable to think that 58 percent of voters could simply be that petty. □



Ginny Dumond
Editor-in-Chief

LOBBYIST: Simmons proud to serve alma mater

From Page 1

A Joplin native and a Southern marketing and management graduate, she went to work for Empire District Electric Company while attending college. Simmons continued to work for Empire in various positions after graduation, and started to lobby for the utility in 1987.

"In 1991, I moved to Columbia and started my own consulting firm," she said. "I still lobby for Empire."

One of the other things she will be doing for the College is looking for planning money for construction of a building to house the allied health programs. This includes the dental hygiene, kinesiology, nursing, respiratory therapy, EMT, and paramedic programs.

"They just want planning money," Simmons said. "I will try to find some excess dollars in the budget [for this purpose]. [Rep. Gary] Burton (R-Joplin) and [Sen. Marvin] Singleton (R-Seneca) both are looking for this money also."

Simmons will work with members of the southwest Missouri delegation on issues concerning the College. She will be in close contact with the various committees who are responsible for overseeing capital improvement dollars.

Simmons is married to a lobbyist, has a daughter, 17, and still has family ties to Joplin. Her mother was the one who sent her the ad in the *The Joplin Globe* about the position.

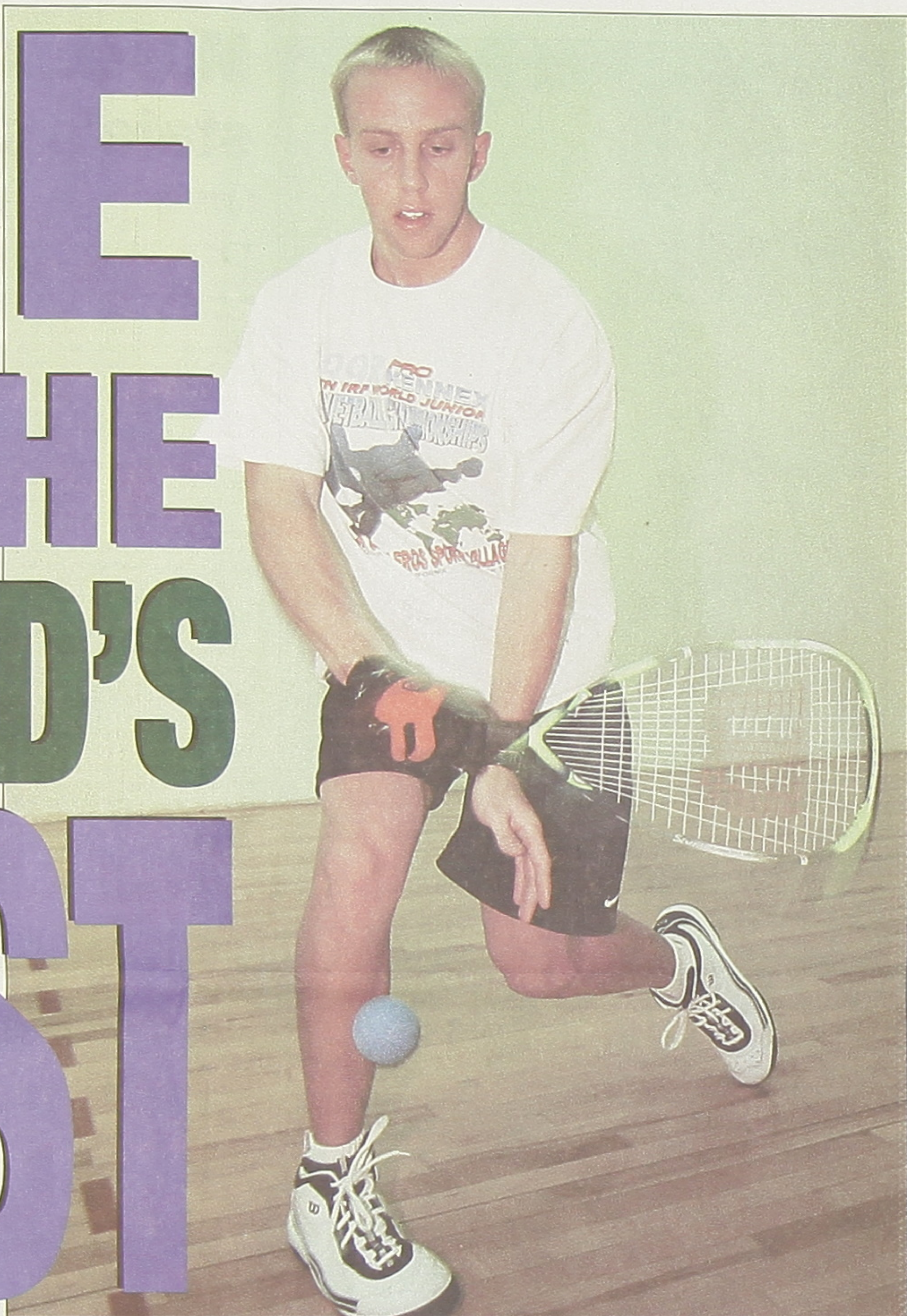
"I am very proud to represent Missouri Southern because it is my alma mater," Simmons said. "Had it not been for the College being there, I probably would not have had the opportunity to attend college." □



Donna Simmons has been hired by the College as a lobbyist to represent Missouri Southern in Jefferson City.

GINNY DUMOND/The Chart

ONE OF THE WORLD'S BEST



Tucker earns world ranking

By JEFF BILLINGTON
EXECUTIVE EDITOR

The echo of the ricochet of a speeding racquetball can be heard from the courts at Olympic Fitness Center when Josh Tucker is practicing.

Tucker, a freshman undeclared major, has proven his prowess with a racket.

"Right now I'm actually tied for first in the 18 and under," he said. "I did get second at the Junior World Tournament. And last March I won the High School Nationals, and then in June I got third in the Junior Olympic Championships."

Tucker has been playing rac-

quetball for about 10 years.

"My parents always went to the Olympic Fitness Center and sort of put me in the court," he said. "I hit the ball around a lot, I got older and started hitting better."

As Tucker got older, he attended the tournaments that his father, Steve Tucker, would compete in.

Even though he never had professional coaching, the younger Tucker received considerable training in racquetball.

"When I was 12, for like a year and a half, I had a guy who gave me lessons that really helped a lot," he said. "Then my dad and mom worked with me a lot when I was little. I never really had a coach to tell me what to do all the time."

At about age 10, Tucker started entering tournaments and competitions.

"The Fitness Center used to have like three or four tournaments a year, and I would play in a couple of those," he said. "When I got older, I started going to out-of-town tournaments."

Tucker did not start playing in national tournaments until he was older than most competitors.

"My first one was when I was about 16," he said. "A lot of them started when they were 10 or 12. I wish I had done that."

Some of the competitions Tucker has played in were set up in different divisions.

"When I was 12 and 13, I started winning C and B divisions, and when I was 15 I moved up," he said. "The first year and a half, I lost the first and second rounds. After that I started getting better and I usually made it to the finals."

College President Julio Leon noticed Tucker's abilities a few years ago.

"I knew of Josh through high school," Leon said. "Then he was featured in *Sports Illustrated* when he came in second."

Tucker said the competitions he participates in are fierce.

"Usually in the 18-and-under, you don't have many easy matches; you just have to keep playing better and better each day," he said. "Especially since I'm on the Junior U.S.A. Team, that's a big competition out there. You can't really let down your guard."

Tucker said even though he is 18, he still has time to compete in the 18-and-under category.

"Well, they go by your age by Jan. 1, so I've got one more year left," he said.

Tucker is currently at Texas A & M competing in the Intercollegiate National Championship. It started on Wednesday and will continue through Sunday.

He does not have any definite plans on what to do with racquetball in the future, but he does have some hopes.

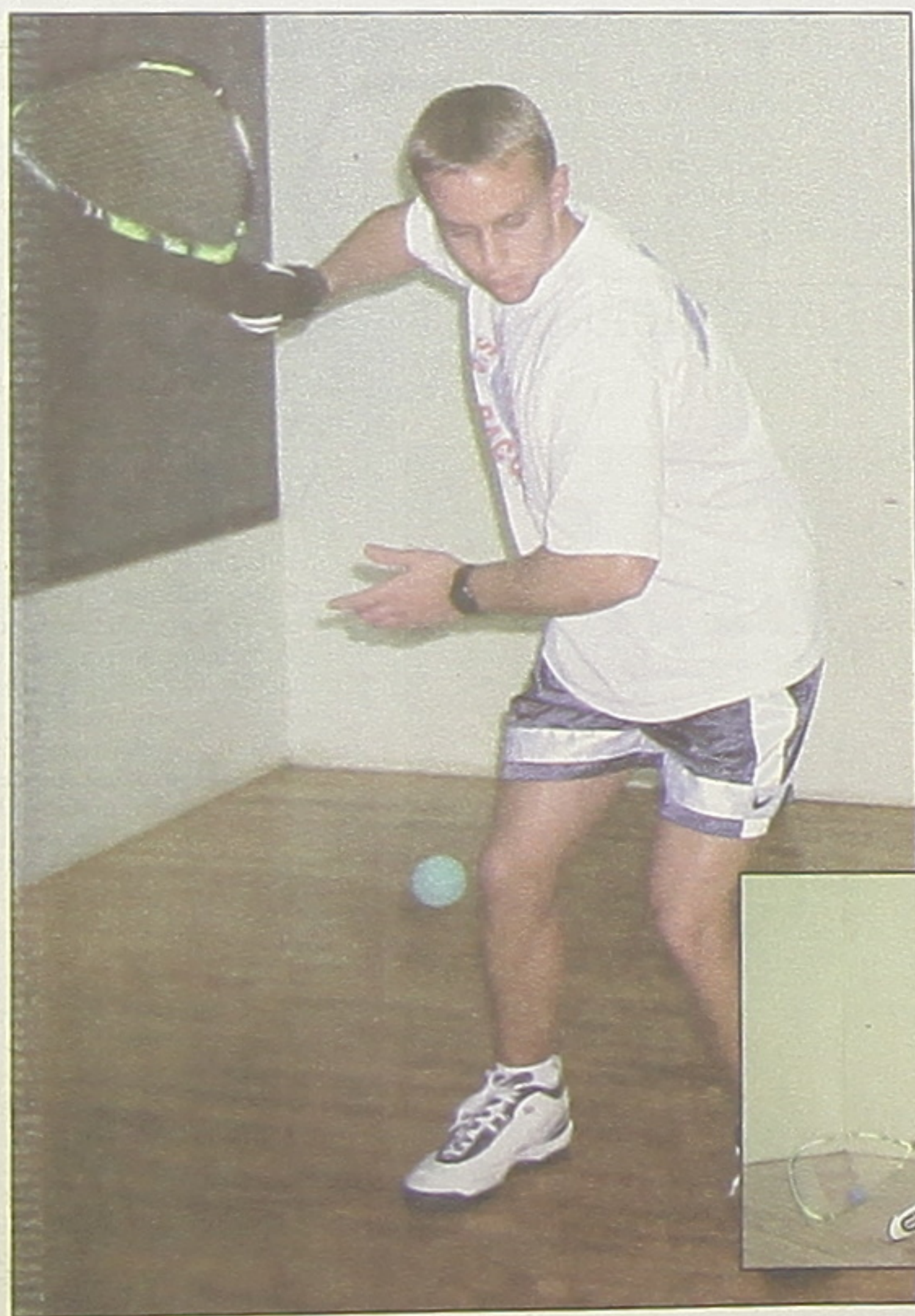
"If they got it in the Olympics, that would be a possibility," Tucker said. "There's a pro tour. I don't know if I want to do that or not."

He said one of the benefits of going to tournaments is the people.

"It's been fun meeting a lot of people from all over the country, making a lot of friends," Tucker said.

He practices several times a week in order to keep up his ability, and would be interested in teaching lessons if the person was intent on learning.

"If somebody wants lessons, I will give lessons," Tucker said. "There's not too many people out there interested. It takes up a lot of time. If they're dedicated, I'll do it, but otherwise it's a waste." □



CLOSE CALL?



Senior first baseman Kent Long waits for the throw in an attempt to tag out Pittsburg State's Austin Kinsey in their battle on April 2 at Joe Becker Stadium. The Lions split with the Gorillas who came into the game ranked 28th in Division II.

NOPPADOL PAOTHONG/The Chart

Lions prep to battle Ichabods, Miners

By JEFF WELLS
MANAGING EDITOR

After a week off, Missouri Southern (9-24) goes on the road this week to face MIAA foes Washburn University and University of Missouri-Rolla.

The Lions' last appearance was a doubleheader at home against Truman State April 2. Southern dropped the games 7-1 and 10-8. Southern split its March 21 doubleheader with Pittsburg State, defeating the Gorillas 7-6 before falling 19-6.

"It was a big win for our kids. Pittsburg has a great program," said head coach Warren Turner. "I think they have a chance to win a conference championship, and I hope they do it if we don't."

The results dropped Southern's MIAA record to 3-8 and ninth place.

Cory Wright, junior shortstop, leads the team in offensive production. He has an average of .359 in 117 at-bats.

"He is hot right now and he is seeing the ball well," Turner said.

"I'm starting to see the ball better and having a better approach at the plate," Wright said.

Wright is also 13-13 in stolen base attempts.

"Normally, it has been hard for us to run a lot of bases because usually we're way behind and you don't run as much," Turner said.

Wright said the statistic was a fluke.

"That's just an ink," he said.

Freshman Joey Ballard has displayed defensive speed in center field and on the bases. He is 8-10 in stolen base attempts.

"For a freshman to come in and not be here in the fall and do what he has done is remarkable," Turner said.

Other statistical leaders include senior senior Justin Dudinsky, who paces the team with four home runs and 12 triples in 95 at-bats. Shawn Mayes, sophomore second baseman, leads the team in walks with 27 in 94 at bats.

Turner said the team has raised its batting average and

lowered its earned run average.

"We are ready to settle down now into a set pitching rotation because we don't play as many games."

Turner said junior Eric Jackson, freshman Nick Johnson, and junior Jeremy Fowler will pitch weekends while junior Trevor Brown and freshman Malachi Momper will throw weekdays.

The Lions will travel to Washburn Saturday to take on the Ichabods (16-9) in a doubleheader. The teams will play again Sunday.

Turner said he maintains a close relationship with veteran Washburn coach Steve Anderson.

"We played in the old CSIC," Turner said. "We had championship games against Washburn."

Wednesday, the team will travel to University of Missouri-Rolla (6-17) for a doubleheader. The Miners are trying to dig out of last place in the conference.

Southern's home game against Northeastern (Okla.) State, which was canceled due to weather, will not be rescheduled. □

SOFTBALL: Stanley hits winning RBI

From Page 14

REMAINING HOME SOFTBALL GAMES

APRIL 10, 1999
vs. Central Missouri State

APRIL 11, 1999
vs. Truman State

APRIL 13, 1999
vs. Southwest Baptist

APRIL 19, 1999
vs. Evagel

APRIL 20, 1999
vs. Northeastern State

APRIL 28, 1999
vs. Emporia State

In the seventh inning, with PSU up to bat Guptill walked the first batter and Lipira decided it was time for a pitching change.

"The part of their order that hit off of Stacy pretty well was up and I thought I could bring in Hailey and get the last three outs," she said.

Stanley walked the first batter and then "the unthinkable" happened.

They bunted with their next batter and Hailey over-threw first base," Lipira said. "They scored two runs and won the game. I was just shocked because losing that game didn't even cross my mind."

The 3-2 Southern loss was followed by another close finish in the second game. With the score locked at zero in the bottom of the seventh inning and Southern up to bat, Amber Shoemaker registered a hit.

With two outs, a full count, and Shoemaker still on base, Stanley ripped the winning RBI to seal a 1-0 win.

"She [Stanley] had an emotional rollercoaster ride today," Lipira said. "Stacy and Hailey both pitched outstanding games."

The win increased Southern's record to 12-16 overall and 3-3 in the MIAA. Stanley led the MIAA in ERA as of April 6. □



NOPPADOL PAOTHONG/The Chart

Junior Jill Becker leads a pack of runners at Southern's Invitational meet.

TRACK: Squads to open indoor

From Page 14

Sims to complete it. Tyson is really having to be an iron man for us."

Sims is also long jumping, high jumping, triple jumping the four-by-one, and also the 110 hurdles.

"Tyson is a tough guy," Rutledge said. "You never hear him complain, and he will always do his best."

The youth of the team is starting to come through as the outdoor season hits full force.

"Stephen Kindell, another freshman, is starting to come around in the long jump and triple jump," Rutledge said.

"He is at 22-10. He knows he needs to get above the 23 mark to score consistently in our conference."

The hurdlers are also young but steadily improving according to Rutledge.

The Lions and Lady Lions will travel to Emporia State this weekend for an NCAA Division II challenge, where they will challenge teams from four conferences. □

SUPER BOWL HARDWARE



KIM TAYLOR/Special to the Chart

Denver Broncos wide receiver Rod Smith displays his 1998 Super Bowl ring during an autograph session at the new Wal-Mart Supercenter in Webb City. Smith, a former Southern Lion, will not receive his 1999 Super Bowl ring until later this year.

Baseball: The great white sport?

Oh, how things change in a year. Tomorrow (April 10) is the one-year anniversary of arguably one of the most controversial columns written in *Chart* history—and my byline was next to it. The headline read 'Baseball: The great white sport' and it is not uncommon to hear a comment or two every now and then.

It read something like black baseball players wouldn't feel comfortable in our baseball program because of certain rules. Also that not many attempts are made at



Andre L. Smith
Sports/Design Editor

recruiting black players and the lack of black baseball players in Division II was insulting. The numbers have increased in Division II, the MIAA, and at Southern.

Does the name Joey Ballard sound familiar?

Yep, he's the guy that was the all-purpose back for Southern's football Lions. Number one, the smooth runner, the guy who catches, runs, and could probably play quarterback if asked. He gained 1,276 yards last season and was named co-Freshman of the Year in the MIAA and earned honorable mention all-conference honors.

He's from Muskogee, Okla. and, if I might say, he's a very pleasant gentleman to be around. For all of you rocket scientists out there, yes, his skin is brown.

And he has lasted a lot longer than last year's article implied and is doing a heck of a job playing in Southern's outfield. In last week's victory over Pittsburg State, Ballard made a game-saving catch to seal a victory and has dazzled fans with spectacular diving catches and has gained respect because of his effort.

So, is this an apology? Not in the least. Am I happy that a black guy is playing baseball for Southern? Yessum.

Naturally, the happiness of a young journalist is not important. It is the happiness of Mr. Ballard, Coach Turner, and the rest of the team.

In an interview during football season, Ballard discussed his love for the game of baseball since he was knee high to a grasshopper. He did the Pee Wee league and junior leagues. He was a two-time all-state pick in high school.

He smiles on the field, he plays his heart out, and he looks as if he's having a good time.

Hopefully, his presence will make it easier to bring in more black players who may be able to bring the excitement that Ballard does.

Of course, no focus is taken away from the TEAM that he plays for. It can never go unmentioned that Warren Turner has done tremendous things (especially for the community) with his baseball program.

Despite the team's 9-24 record, there are flashes of promise. And just as the softball team is not scoring many runs right now, the baseball team has struggles of their own. That can all be changed with a couple of wins and a little confidence.

Cory Wright is having a good year at shortstop and one can't forget pitcher and home run-hitter Justin Dudinsky. Flave Darnell has always been a great all-around player for the Lions and those names are just a few of the talent.

As for me, I'll continue to be a spectator, grab a Mutt Burger, and a drink. And hope the trend continues. □

The Chart SPORTS SCENE

Friday, April 9, 1999

REGIONALLY RANKED

Lady Lions 9-3 after win

By RUSSELL DAKE
STAFF WRITER

The tennis team has claimed a first in the short history of the sport at Missouri Southern. The Lady Lions are ranked 16th in the Midwest region, becoming the first Southern tennis team ever to be ranked.

"I'm very pleased with what we've done this year," said head coach Linda Gebauer. "I think we have turned a lot of things around, and I hope it continues."

Southern added three newcomers to the program this year in freshman Mendy McMunn, Parsons, Kan.; freshman Kerri Murphy, Nevada, Mo.; and senior Jaime Dill, Mount Vernon, Mo.; giving the team some much needed depth.

"That is how you win in team tennis," Gebauer said. "You have to have depth down the ladder, and we definitely have a lot more depth than last year with the newcomers on the team."

The added depth has paid off in a 9-3 record for the Lady Lions, who Tuesday fell 5-4 at home to Washburn University. Washburn is 13-0 and ranked No. 22 in the nation.

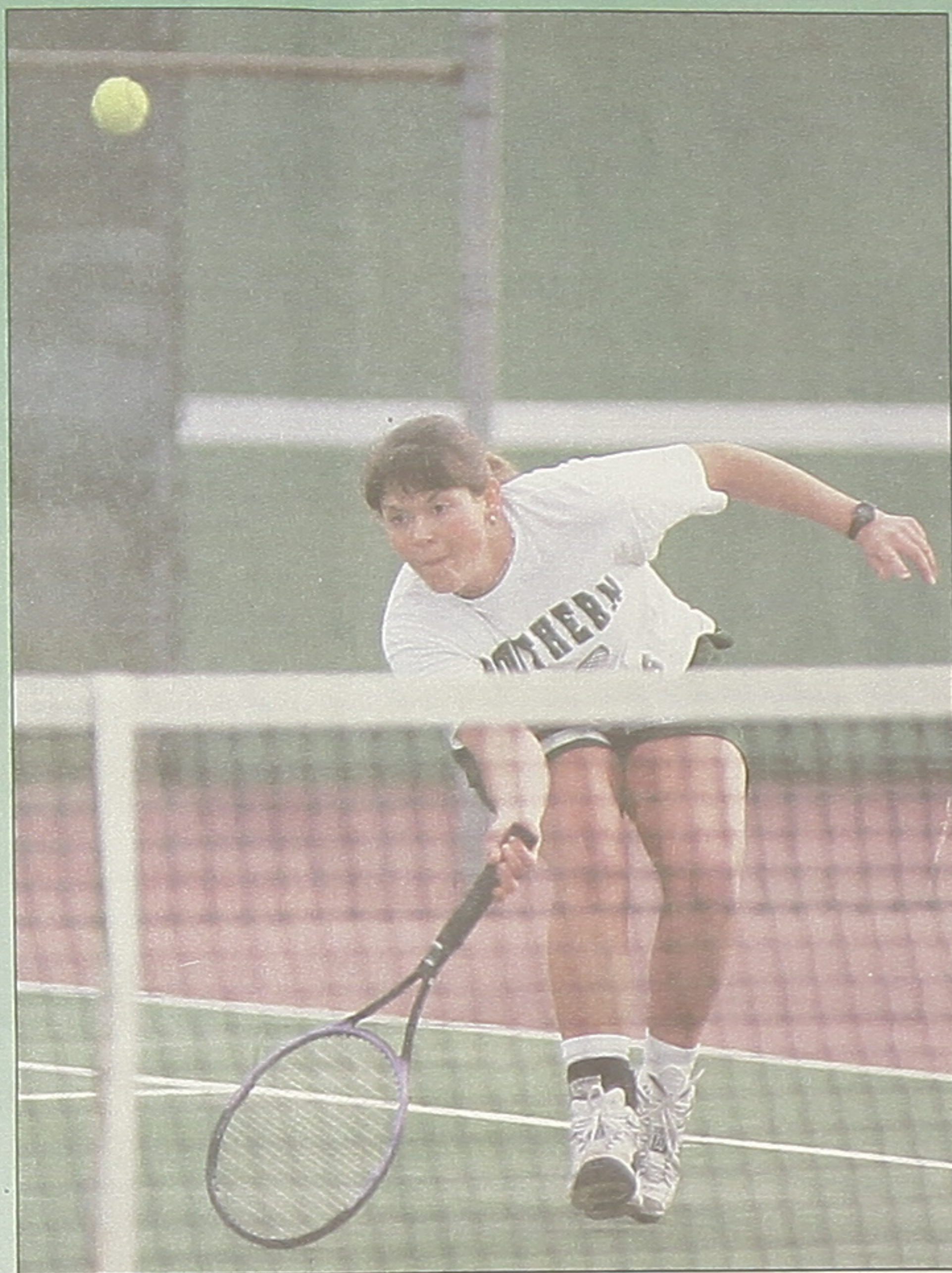
"They are much improved," said Washburn head coach Peg Marmet. "They are playing hard and with consistency, staying in the point, and they have a little more depth than in the past."

"Their girls at the top are playing tougher. I see a nice improvement. They are concentrating hard and they are well focused."

Winners for Southern on Tuesday were the No. 2, No. 3, and No. 4 singles players: Heather Andrews, 6-4, 6-4; McMunn, 3-6, 7-5, 6-4; and Valerie Butler, 6-3, 6-0. Also coming away with a victory was the No. 2 doubles team of Butler-McMunn, 8-6.

"To be able to play them a 5-4 match is very encouraging," Gebauer said. "They can see the hard work is paying off to get a ranking. This match should help that cause."

"We've been able to play some of the schools in the conference some close matches. We played Northwest Missouri close, and today we played Washburn close; that has helped with their confidence."



Senior Heather Andrews looks to improve her record by pursuing a ball during last week's contest against Southwest Baptist University.

Gebauer credited the play of McMunn at No. 3 singles, 14-2; Butler at No. 4 singles, 13-3; and the No. 2 doubles team of Butler-McMunn, 10-0; for their role in the success of this year's team in match-play.

There was, however, some bad news from the play Tuesday. No. 5 singles player Kerri Murphy

retired in the second set of her match trailing 6-1, 2-1 with a knee injury.

"They don't think it's a ligament," Gebauer said. "That is a big loss. Everyone is going to have to move up the ladder. We've got some work to catch up at the bottom of the ladder."

Added Marmet, "Linda

[Gebauer] is doing a great job. She has got them in great condition and working hard. I'm impressed."

The Lady Lions return to action at 9 a.m. Saturday at home against Emporia State University. The match was originally scheduled for a 10 a.m. start. □

SOFTBALL

Southern struggles to score

By ANDRE L. SMITH
SPORTS/DESIGN EDITOR

Two wins this weekend over first place Truman State and second place Central Missouri State would undoubtedly be a confidence booster for Missouri Southern's softball team.

The Lady Lions will battle the Lady Bulldogs on Saturday afternoon at 3 p.m. and will squabble with the Jennies on Sunday at noon, both games to be played in the comfy confines of Lea Kungie Field.

"We have a big opportunity to play some teams this weekend that are having a better season than we are," said Lady Lions head coach Pat Lipira. "It's good to be at home for a while. It'll be a good test for us."

This season has not gone the way Lipira envisioned, however, that could change with a couple of big victories. Getting runners across the plate has been the team's biggest struggle.

"It's been kind of a frustrating season in that we've had a lot of trouble scoring runs," Lipira said. "After looking at the conference stats, the difference is run production."

Ten of Southern's losses have been lost by one run and six have been decided by tie-breaker. The Lady Lions started out the season with a goal of scoring five runs a game. Instead they are averaging a little over two a game.

"If we had done that, we would only have four losses right now," Lipira said.

Instead of pushing for five runs a game, Lipira and her team decided to shave their goal to three runs.

"We're just not scoring runs," Lipira said. "We were losing 2-1, 2-1, 1-0, 1-0, I'm thinking, 'all we have to do is score three runs' but we couldn't do that. It's been a little bit sad for our pitchers because they are throwing what I think is an outstanding official game and we still find a way to lose because we can't score."

On Wednesday afternoon Southern salvaged a split in a pair of one-run affairs at Pittsburg State. In the first game, Southern led 2-0 through six innings with Stacy Guptill pitching the entire way. The Lady Gorillas, who had only hit one ball out of the infield the entire game, scored a run in the sixth inning to cut Southern's lead to one run.

TURN TO **SOFTBALL**, PAGE 13

TRACK & FIELD

Keller earns two provisional marks

By ROBBY BALL
STAFF WRITER

With the calling of summer quickly approaching, the Missouri Southern men's and women's outdoor track and field teams are in full stride.

After starting off the season at Pittsburg State University, the Lions and Lady Lions traveled to Springfield the last weekend of spring break and stayed at home last weekend for the Southern Invitational.

The four seniors on the women's side took a trip over spring break to a meet at Florida State University.

"At Pitt State, right before we left, Tina Keller ran two provisional qualifying marks," said Patty Vavra, head coach. "She is sitting at about seventh in the nation."

Keller also had a provisional mark in the 400-meter hurdles.

"We went to Florida State and the girls just had a great meet," Vavra said. "Amanda Harrison ran personal bests in both races."

Harrison placed second in the 800 and eighth in the 1,500. Harrison continued her strides after Florida State with consecutive wins at Southwest Missouri State University and Southern last weekend.

"She ran a provisional time, hopefully good enough to get her into the national meet at Florida State," Vavra said. "She won the 3,000 at SMS and the 1,500 here at our meet last weekend."

"She's having a great year to this point."

The other senior who traveled south this spring break was Stephanie Waincott.

"She had a career best discus throw at Florida State, but did even better at SMS," Vavra said. "She got a provisional in the shot put, and threw even further in the discus."

Senior sprinter Heather Hoyle is just a tenth of a second off a provisional qualifying mark.

"It takes Heather a little longer to get going, as it does with most sprinters," Vavra said. "She is just a little behind in the 200, but is right there."

Freshman heptathlete Misty Estes competed in a heptathlon at Central Missouri State University in Warrensburg over spring break.

"It was Misty's first collegiate meet, and she had personal bests in every event," Vavra said. "She won the 100-meter hurdles and the 200, and finished third out of 13."

The Lions traveled to PSU before spring break, as well as SMS, and the home meet occurred last weekend.

"Pitt State was cold and caused some problems for us," said Tom Rutledge, men's head coach. "In Carlton Green's case, he is used to training in Florida — warm weather and no snow. He is getting used to having to take more time to warm up."

With injury and cold, the Lions are short one person on their four-by-one relay.

"We have Lamonte Styles, Jimmy Miller, and Carlton Green," Rutledge said. "We are having to slip in Tyson



Tyson Sims stretches for extra inches in mid-air during the long jump event at The Missouri Southern Invitational Meet.

TURN TO **TRACK**, PAGE 13

CROSSING THE BARRIERS

The Chart takes a look at Hispanics in Southwest Missouri.
Section B

LANGUAGE CULTURE
EDUCATION RELIGION

Wendy and Karla
Gomez overcome
cultural differences.



Area churches
offer Spanish
services.



Stores cater
to Hispanic
customers.



Community bridging gap of language, cultures

During the last seven to eight years, southwest Missouri has found its nearly homogeneous population become increasingly sprinkled with culture due to a rising number of Hispanic families in the area.

This change is evident in nearly all sections of local communities, from education to industry, and there is no sign of change any time soon. How is the area dealing with the influx and its effects? This special supplement to *The Chart* explores the numerous ways businesses, hospitals, churches, schools, and individuals are bridging the gap between the language and cultures. It is important for students and community members to observe the progress being made and the needs yet to be made in the area of cultural diversity and understanding differences.

By striving to train teachers better equipped to handle multicultural classrooms

to the College's "Cultural Awareness" broadcasts, Missouri Southern is showing its commitment to international studies.

Southern students and alumni are finding unique career and volunteer opportunities both in and out of their major fields working with Spanish-speaking people. Local businesses have sought to accommodate Hispanic clientele and employees by providing translators and other assistance.

Today's Hispanic immigration reflects the same spirit this country was founded with when individuals flocked to American soil in search of a better life. Though this cultural diversity presents new challenges to both English and Spanish-speakers, residents of southwest Missouri possess the unique opportunity to learn from each other and make crossing the barriers a rewarding experience. □

FREEMAN HOSPITALS AND HEALTH SYSTEM

Clinic gives birth to assistance for Hispanic women

By RHONDA CLARK
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Providing adequate and timely maternity care to patients on Medicaid or without access to care describes the services of the Freeman Maternity Clinic.

Dealing with a growing Hispanic population creates a challenge for this entity. When Freeman Hospital and Health Systems assumed responsibility of the maternity services from the city health department in 1992, Hispanic patients numbered around 3 percent. Current estimates place the figure closer to 50 percent.

Becky Mitchell, certified nurse midwife and director of the clinic, said Hispanic patients typically seek treatment when they are 24 to 28 weeks gestation, or more than halfway through the pregnancy.

"Preventive care has never been an issue in Mexico, or in any of the Hispanic countries that we care for," she said. "They only got care if somebody told them they had to, and we kind of realign their thought pattern that once they think they are pregnant, they need to come in and be seen and start care fairly early."

Mitchell notes Hispanic women possess a predisposition for gestational diabetes and a large percentage in this culture have children late in life.

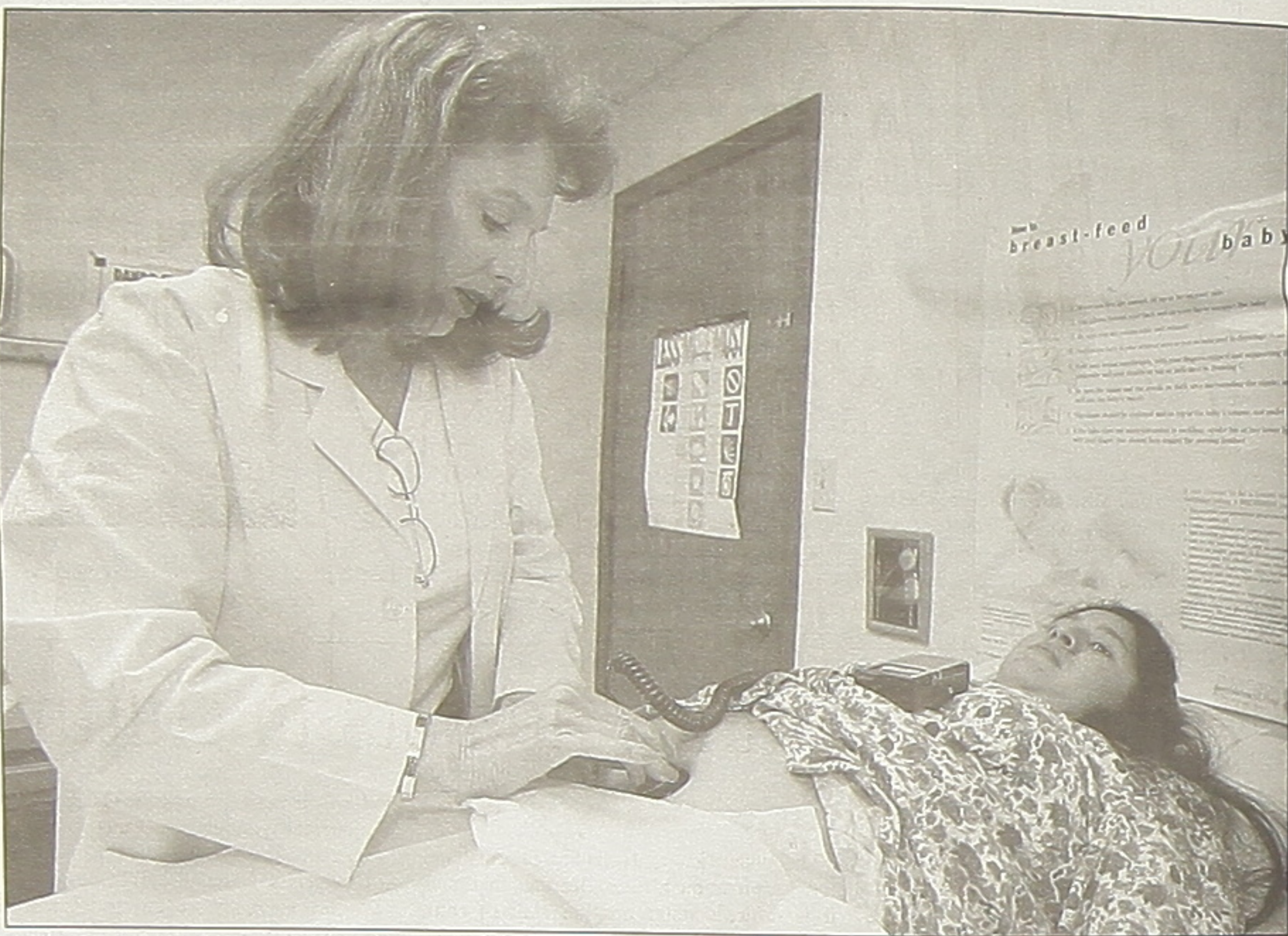
Both of these may lead to major problems if prenatal care is postponed. The clinic attempts to educate Hispanics about the need for early care.

A hindrance to care is transportation, especially when the majority of patients come from outside Joplin.

"Patients have a very difficult time finding transportation because the women do not have a driver's license," said Francis Miller, care coordinator for the clinic.

She said certain limitations exist for providing assistance due to Medicaid restrictions, and few patients speak English.

"One of the biggest problems for the Hispanic population is the language barrier," Miller said. "I put a lot of pressure on them to



Becky Mitchell, certified nurse midwife and director of the Freeman Maternity Clinic, examines Natividad Robolledo and checks the baby's heartbeat. The clinic has experienced an increase in Hispanic patients since 1992.

attend classes to learn English."

She encourages Hispanic patients to practice English, and addresses their social and emotional needs. If unable to find an interpreter, patients have been known to bring bills and letters to Miller for translation.

Mitchell has found the Hispanic culture fosters a male dominance. Husbands usually possess a better grasp of English and dictate certain aspects of the relationship such as

whether to use birth control. Persuading husbands to accompany their wives into the labor and delivery process takes some coaxing, but most eventually agree.

"The thing that impresses me most about the Hispanic women in labor is that they are a very strong group of women," Mitchell said. "They typically choose to use very little medication, and they work hard at having their babies."

Though Spanish prenatal classes are not offered, the clinic does not provide books on the Lamaze method and childbirth videos in Spanish.

"It's an enjoyable population to take care of," Mitchell said.

They're a population who typically don't drink, don't smoke, and they don't do drugs. They eat well. They really do take care of themselves." □

SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

Sisters find success in education, career

By JEFF BILLINGTON
EXECUTIVE EDITOR

When arriving in Oklahoma five years ago, Wendy and Karla Gomez found themselves faced with the difficult task of communicating in English.

Though both are native-born citizens, most of their lives have been spent in Mexico.

"We were born in Texas, but we were raised in Mexico," said Karla, senior business major. "Juarez, that's the name of the town, it's just across the border."

She said the first three years of her life were spent in Texas, and the next 13 in Mexico.

They then moved to Oklahoma.

"My uncle used to live here in Oklahoma, so we came here for a two-week vacation and we stayed," Karla said. "My parents liked it here."

Wendy said once they arrived, the culture and language were probably the most difficult obstacles.

"It was kind of difficult to get adapted to the U.S., trying to use a different language," she said.

Karla said this was difficult for her as well.

"We went to school in Texas for two years; we really didn't practice our English because everybody spoke Spanish," she said. "So when we moved here to Oklahoma, that's when we started practicing our English."

Both Wendy and Karla graduated from Northeastern Oklahoma A & M. Karla said by going to NEO and Missouri Southern, she has been able to remain living at home.

Wendy, who graduated from Southern in December with a business degree, said one of the cultural differences she noticed after moving to

the area was how many Americans move away from home for college.

"I think that was kind of a shock to me, to move out and leave your parents," Wendy said.

Karla said children stay at home much longer in Mexico.

"In Mexico, you stay at home until you get married," she said. "You're 25, 26 and still live at home."

Wendy and Karla both praise Terry Marion, professor of business and director of the International Trade and Quality Center, with being extremely helpful.

"Mr. Marion, he helped us a lot with any problems I had," Wendy said. "He gave me advice on what to do."

With help from Marion, Wendy got a job at CFI, in Joplin, working on the switchboard and has since moved to a position in accounts payable. Both jobs have required the use of bilingual employees.

Marion said he is pleased with the progress Wendy and Karla have made.

"I am impressed that only five or six years ago, how they really didn't know English," he said. "They've worked really hard to do what they have, I really have to respect that."

Marion said their needs from the College were different than most, but he was able to help because of past experience.

"Perhaps I related a little better since my wife works with Hispanics with a church mission group," Marion said.

Karla said even though she likes the area, she hopes to return to where she grew up.

"I think I will live there again," she said. "I like it here too, but I think I like Texas better." □



NOPPADOL PAOTHONG/The Chart

After moving to Oklahoma, Wendy and Karla Gomez found the hardest obstacles to overcome was the English language. Wendy graduated from Missouri Southern in December and Karla will this December.

HIGHER EDUCATION

Medical community adjusts to cultural differences

By CASSIE HOMBS
STAFF WRITER

With the realization Spanish speakers get sick and injured just as those fluent in English do, area hospitals are organizing programs to educate their staff in Spanish.

St. John's Regional Medical Center and Freeman Hospitals and Health System in Joplin and McCune-Brooks Hospital in Carthage are recognizing the importance of being able to communicate with patients of all backgrounds.

Pat Beardon, director of nurses at McCune-Brooks, says the language barrier has increased over the past few years.

"It really is a problem," she said. "A few nurses and staff members know a little bit

of Spanish, but there is a lot of hand signaling going on."

The population of Hispanics in Carthage has grown tremendously, Beardon said, and it is difficult when hospital staffers can't understand what Hispanic patients need when they come in.

"We can't tell what hurts them or for how long," she said. "It really presents a problem."

Some nurses at McCune-Brooks are taking Spanish lessons to help remedy this problem. Translators are also staffed when the hospital has difficulty communicating.

Freeman uses a similar system when dealing with its Spanish-speaking patients.

"We have a lot of signs all over the hospital in Spanish," said Kyle Robinson, director of marketing. "It's a growing population,

and has become significant enough for us to recognize it and do something about it."

Freeman also has translators on hand to help overcome language barriers.

"We are currently employing seven translators, which rotate being on call," Robinson said. "We always want to have the opportunity to be able to communicate with our customers."

Lynn Iloff-Onstot, public relations coordinator at St. John's Regional Medical Center and Missouri Southern alumna, says the hospital keeps an active list of translators on hand for patients who can't understand English.

"We have identified the problem and are working on correcting it," she said. "We want to be able to help them when they come in."

The hospital also wants to help if patients can't come in. With the use of a new mobile air stream unit, MedMobile, St. John's has sent medical staff on the road. The MedMobile takes primary, preventative services on the road to under-served populations in counties such as McDonald, Barry, and Newton. The staff of the MedMobile consists of Spanish-speaking medical professionals.

"We feel it is necessary to go to communities that can't get to the hospital," Onstot said. "Many Hispanic people are working in jobs where they can't get out and see the doctor during the day. We want to help them."

Regardless of their chosen avenue, these hospitals attempt to close the gap on the language barriers. □

CONTINUING EDUCATION

Station offers residents 'Cultural Awareness' aid

By ERIN SELLERS
CAMPUS EDITOR

Informative television for the Hispanic community has its base at Missouri Southern.

"Cultural Awareness," a 20-minute weekly show targeted toward Hispanics, as well as a weekly Spanish newscast air from the MSTV/ITFS studio.

"Mainly what we're doing is giving [the Hispanic community] information to help them become better citizens and learn about all the services that are out in the community," said Lucy Bond, the host of both shows.

Before coming to Southern Bond worked in Carthage as the host of Family Literacy Council's Hispanic television programming.

Bond invites local merchants on "Cultural Awareness" to explain how their goods and services benefit the Hispanic community and give advice about certain areas of interest. She then translates the merchants' comments into Spanish.

"I'm constantly learning new things," Bond said. "What we're doing is building a bridge between the Hispanics and Americans."

Robin Douglas, creative services director at Missouri Southern Television, said the "Cultural Awareness" program is beneficial for the English-speaking community as well as Hispanics.

"It's a wealth of information about the Hispanic culture," Douglas said. "It gives the English-speaking community some Hispanic exposure."

"Cultural Awareness," which originated in the minds of the Family Literacy Council in



Lucy Bond (right), host of the department of continuing education's television program "Cultural Awareness," discusses local issues with her guest Janet LaFon of University Education. The program addresses issues related to the Hispanic community.

ERIN SELLERS/The Chart

Carthage, is now closely associated with Southern's office of continuing education. Dr. Jerry Williams, director of continuing education, got Southern involved with the two shows.

"I'm initially from Neosho and Carthage where we have a fairly large Hispanic population and I knew not very much was being done," Williams said. "So, I started a GED program [for Hispanics]."

After the GED program was established, the Family Literacy Center in Carthage, which was already producing "Cultural

Awareness," worked with Williams and eventually brought the television show to Southern.

The shows have been airing since October. Starting this month, "Cultural Awareness" is going to be broadcast in Springfield on cable. Each episode of "Cultural Awareness" is taped, and the tapes are then filed into a library. Anyone is able to go and check out the tapes from the Family Literacy Center in Carthage.

The news program consists of Bond translating local headlines into Spanish. It is pri-

marily for the four-county area.

Williams is looking to expand the Hispanic programming into the musical realm as the interest for Spanish shows increase.

"We have a lot of Hispanics [in the area] and we see the need to give them information," Bond said.

So as the Hispanic population in the four-state area grows and with it the need for more Spanish broadcasts, the Family Literacy Council and the continuing education office may have more opportunities to service the community. □

VEGA TRANSLATIONS

Area translator finds many uses for language abilities

By VINCE SWEENEY
STAFF WRITER

While some immigrating Hispanics are still not familiar with the English language, interpreters like David Hunt are able to translate for them in certain situations.

Hunt, who has studied Spanish for a total of 18 years, began when he was 6. He believes it is not difficult to become fluent.

"If you're a kid, you really don't notice," he said. "As far as being comfortable, you can before the age of 10 if you spend time in a foreign country."

Hunt is the coordinator of Vega Translations. He says it's different from other jobs because it's an on-

call service. He takes calls from the police, hospitals, and occasionally the area court systems.

Jay A. Reyes, Monett chief of police, says the department does not employ translators, but it does use the services of Vega Translations.

"About one year ago he (Hunt) took the company from Grace Vega, who is from Monett and went to Bolivia and married her husband," Reyes said. "Ownership went to David Hunt, and we kept up with him."

Reyes adds that it is not unusual for Hunt to be in the police station weekly. Hunt says anyone can call him at anytime.

"It is more usual Friday, Saturday, and Sunday nights after

1 a.m.," he said. "I get several calls from the police and the hospital at that time."

Hunt says the only real hours he has is once a month when he interprets for the Monett Municipal Court. This time is set aside for Hispanics who are unable to speak English and have to appear in court.

Hunt believes it is difficult at times to translate because of emotions.

"It totally depends on the situation," he said. "I will get more personal or involved if I know the person."

Hunt said translators are not allowed to give legal advice.

Reyes believes local newspapers are of the opinion that Hispanics

are not getting good advice from their court interpreters. However, they are missing the real issue.

"I think sometimes people don't realize that's not his job to give advice," Reyes said. "His job is to translate."

Hunt believes in a period of time, businesses such as the police force and hospitals will no longer need translators because people working for them will be able to speak Spanish.

He says there are some now, but just not enough to cover all shifts. Hunt notes this will be the case for almost all places, but the courts will still need professional translators.

"This is a limited-time job, and I am glad to do it at the moment,

but probably in five years it will not be required," he said.

Hunt believes the two biggest transitions Hispanics have to make are the different language and different culture. He thinks it is more difficult to learn English if you stick with the Spanish-speaking environment.

"We have a large influx of Spanish people," Reyes said.

David has established himself as a credible interpreter.

Hunt says most of the signs Americans make toward Hispanics are taken as signs of discrimination.

"I think it's fear more than anything," he said.

"We should show friendliness as a regard no matter what." □

LOCAL COMMERCE

Area banks deal with gaps in communication

By **CASSIE HOMBS**
STAFF WRITER

With the Hispanic population in this area growing every day, banks in the region are faced with a language barrier that may hinder future business.

As more and more Hispanics make this area home, banks are starting to see the results of inefficient communication skills.

"With the Hispanic population becoming greater, these people are becoming a major part of the work force," explained John Lopes, senior vice president of First State Bank of Joplin. "The communication barrier is definitely getting larger."

This is why First State, along with other area banks, is taking steps toward educating their employees in the Spanish language.

Missouri Southern offers classes to persons interested in conversational Spanish. Anissa Lathim, branch manager of First

State, said her branch is taking advantage of the opportunity.

"We've sent some of our people to the classes," she said, for which the bank pays the tuition fees.

But First State isn't the only bank in town training its employees in Spanish. Southwest Missouri Bank (SMB) prides itself on its efforts to overcome the communication barrier.

"We have several customers who are Hispanic and know very little English," said Barb Vandergriff, assistant vice president. "When we realized it was going to be a problem, we decided to meet them halfway."

SMB held a six-week course in Spanish that consisted mainly of banking terms. Employees learned to greet customers, help with accounts, and perform basic tasks such as cashing checks, making deposits, and counting back change for Hispanic customers.

"Their whole face lights up when they

come into the bank and there are people who know how to communicate with them and help them," Vandergriff said. "We've had lots of referrals from our Hispanic customers."

This forecasts good news for the bank, especially since the number of Hispanic customers is growing tremendously.

Carrie Wyler, loan officer at Mercantile Bank, said it uses a translator to communicate with the customers who don't speak English.

"A lot of Hispanic customers come to our location because they have heard that we have someone who can communicate with them," she said. "It's really not much of a problem for us."

But Lopes warns it may grow into a future problem.

"People are wanting to work and are finding jobs," he said. "The Hispanic population is becoming a vital part of our community. With businesses expanding, the language

“

When we realized it was going to be a problem we decided to meet them half way.

Barb Vandergriff
Southwest Missouri Bank

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barrier will continue to grow in the future.

"As we employ more and more people, we need to be aware of communication problems, and we need to use available resources to overcome them." □

NALA

Literacy organization meets need for English skills

By **ELIZABETH SCHURMAN**
ASSISTANT EDITOR

Taking advantage of the free services offered by the Joplin Neighborhood Adult Literacy Action could help adults with the use of English skills.

The Joplin NALA program recruits and teaches adults who need assistance in reading, writing, and English as a Second Language (ESL).

One of NALA's programs, ESL, currently assists 39 people exclusively from other countries.

"The program is comprehensive in teaching English to the students from other countries," said Marj Boudreaux, director of NALA. "They work on their conversation skills as well as their reading and writing."

There are four levels students in the program may complete. The courses are taught twice a week on Tuesday and Thursday, from 8 a.m. to noon.

Along with many grammatical and verbal skills, the students have opportunities to converse with each other and discuss the happenings in their lives.

"We teach them basic English skills," said Judy Williams, an ESL instructor. "We also talk about their lives, discuss stories, and try to make them think."

Students also learn printing, punctuation, and cursive. They act out situations and work on their sound effects, too.

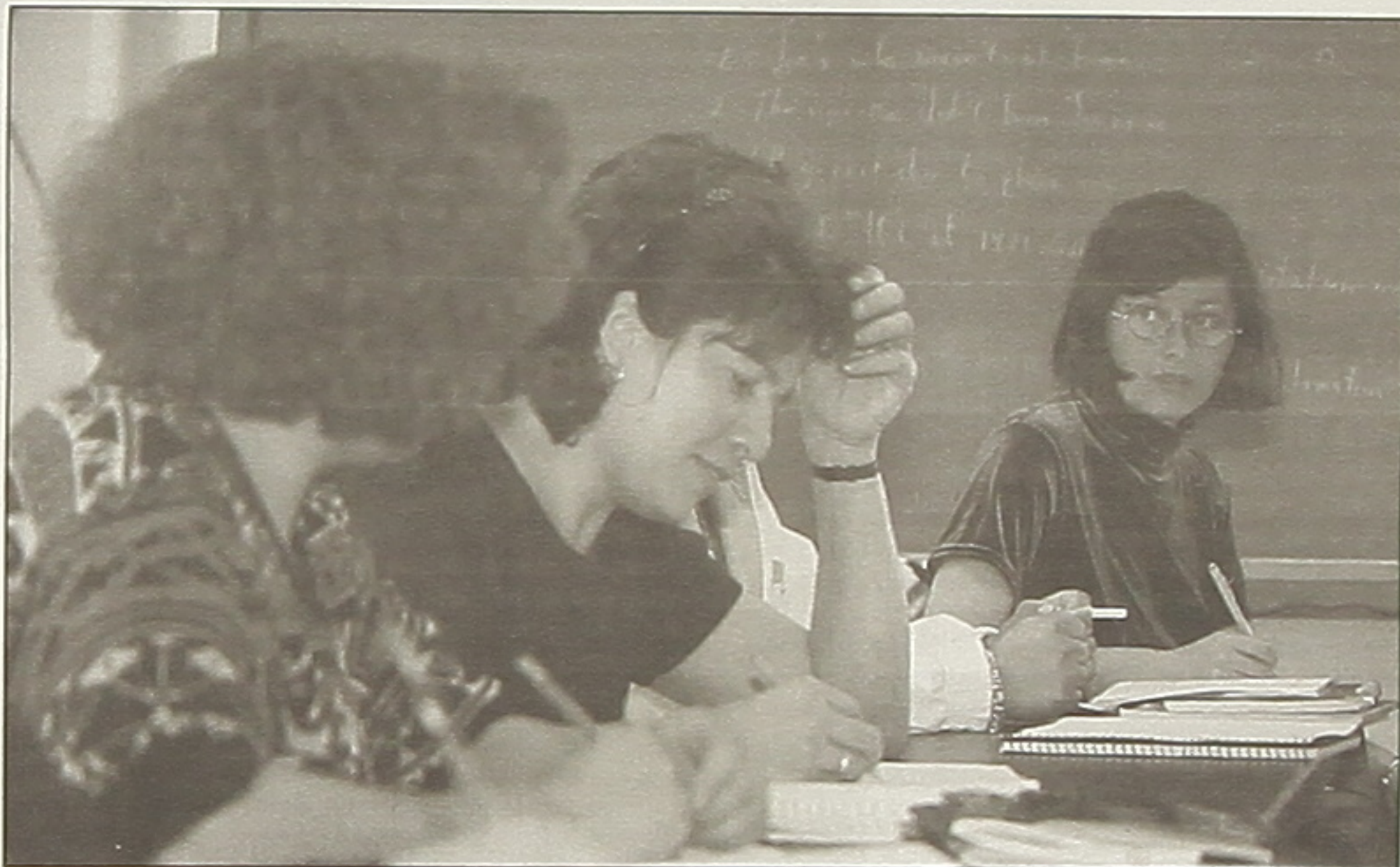
"It is very important for the students to have a sense of humor and to be able to interact with others," Williams said.

The main problem for students to overcome is the difference in phonics in the English language.

It is harder for foreign students to conquer the difference in sounding out words than it is for English-speaking students.

"One of the most important things the students need to learn is the phonics, the sounding out of words," Williams said. "We sound out words a lot more differently than what they do."

The program is for all types of adults and on all levels of learning.



JEFF WELLS/The Chart

Adults learning English as a second language practice drills in a day course offered by NALA at Joplin High School West Campus. The course goes beyond teaching grammar and explores common slang expressions.

"Before they pass onto another class, we do a check up to make sure they are where they need to be," Boudreaux said.

"It goes both ways; some students can read English but they can't converse, and some can converse and speak fluently but can't read or write."

Students in the program use books which are provided by NALA throughout the classes they attend.

"There is no charge at all for the class and the students may enter when they need to," Williams said. "There are no qualifications to be in the program."

Joplin NALA is located at First and Schifferdecker. Access is through the west door, located at the back of the building.

For more information on the programs available through NALA, persons may call Boudreaux at 625-5398. □

AREA FEATURE

Couple tackles cultural differences in marriage

By JANA BLANKENSHIP
ASSISTANT DESIGN EDITOR

It's been more than two years since Danny and Meredith Rangel of Webb City said their wedding vows.

Since then, Meredith, who is a Webb City native, thinks she has learned a great deal and even changed some by becoming a part of the Hispanic community. Her husband comes from a large Mexican, or Chicano, family. Chicanos are Mexicans who are born in the states.

"His family always finds the best in things, even in bad times," she said. "I'd be depressed about something and they'd be happy. Their sense of humor is great."

At one point there were nine people all living in a two-bedroom house in San Antonio.

"If you're family, you're in," Meredith said. "Before we were even married they were all very accepting of me. I was a part of Danny's life, so I automatically became a part of their life."

Meredith loves the fact that her husband's family is so family-oriented. She also said she enjoys learning more about being family-oriented.

"I would do almost anything for my family, but they would go to the extreme," she said. "I don't think there's anything

they wouldn't do. In Danny's case, they've had a hard life and so they had to lean on each other."

Disrespecting another family member of another Chicano is a big issue.

"Respect is big, big, big," she said. "Whether they're right or wrong, it doesn't matter. You take their side."

When Meredith's grandfather died, a huge party was thrown after the funeral.

"Everybody drank and they were happy," she said, "not that he was gone. The family got together and brought out picture books and remembered all the good times."

She said the biggest adjustment she has had to make is trying to understand what the family is saying, although most of them do speak English.

"We'd be in a crowded room and I would have no clue what they were saying half the time," she said. "Danny would help me understand a little. Basically whenever they laughed, I would chuckle too."

Dinners are also a big deal in the Rangel family.

"You don't just make one little thing," said Danny Rangel. "A typical dinner would include enchiladas, beans, rice, chips, and homemade salsa. A typical breakfast includes potatoes, eggs, sausage, salsa, beans, rice, guacamole, and sour cream. Lunches aren't that big because you're usually

still stuffed from breakfast and you still have dinner to eat later."

Easter is also celebrated a little differently. Instead of boiling eggs, they poke holes in the bottom of them and let the egg come out. They then clean it out with water and save the shells.

The shells are colored and filled with confetti or glitter. Finally, they are covered with tissue paper.

Later they all go around and crack them on each other's heads. It's a sign for good luck.

"It's really a lot of fun for everyone, even the kids," Meredith said. "We still color and hide eggs and have Easter baskets, though."

Danny believes the differences between the couple are not because of their races but rather because they grew up in different parts of the country.

"Every place is different," he said. "California to her is a total culture shock. I don't think it has so much to do with the cultures."

They have two sons, 19 months and 3 months.

"I don't think they'll have a hard time," Danny said. "They'll be proud of who they are. Both cultures are a part of them. The fact that they have both Mexican and white in them shouldn't be an issue." □

AREA RETAILER

Store adapts to changing population

By ROB WOODALL
ADVERTISING MANAGER

Small-town business in Noel is changing to better serve its growing Hispanic population.

Chris Ross, store manager of Harp's Food Store, said the small grocery store was recently upgraded to include a 20-foot Hispanic aisle containing only authentic Mexican goods. He said it has definitely improved business and the overall convenience of the store. Ross has also tried to change his work force to help bridge the culture gap.

"Normally, I try to keep one person employed who is bilingual," he said. "It's real beneficial to have one."

Ross said Harp's does not presently have such an employee but is looking to hire one.

The store also now offers a small Hispanic produce section containing items such as cactus leaves and yucca root.

Ross believes the expansion is good not only for the store but the entire town of Noel.

"I think the community as a whole can benefit from everyone else," he said. "When



An Hispanic customer shops at Rosa's Mexican Store in Noel. Rosa and Geraldo Lemu moved to Noel from Torrance, Calif., after hearing about the opportunities the area poultry plants offered to Hispanics.

we first started this, I didn't know what half that stuff was."

Across town from Harp's lies Rosa's Mexican Store, a year-old store that deals in products centered for Hispanic Americans.

The store is owned and operated by Rosa

and Geraldo Lemu, who traveled to Noel from Torrance, Calif. Rosa Lemu said word traveled of the new opportunities the poultry plants in the area provided.

"We didn't make too much money in California, so we decided to come over here," she said.

Lemu said the increase in the Hispanic population in the area prompted her to open the store 14 months ago.

The store now contains thousands of products including movies, Mexican bread, and piñatas. The store is open Monday through Saturday from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. □

NOPPADOL PAOTHONG/The Chart

COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT

Culture, context important in Spanish classes

By JANA BLANKENSHIP
ASSISTANT DESIGN EDITOR

Being able to speak two languages fluently is a difficult concept for many to grasp, especially those who have a hard enough time speaking their own language.

For Dr. Cristóbal Sartori, assistant professor of Spanish, it comes natural. Sartori grew up in Guanajuata, Mexico, where he was raised speaking both Spanish and English.

He didn't always want to become a Spanish instructor. He first wanted to go into molecular biology.

"I needed so many credits, and because I knew how to speak Spanish, I thought I could get good grades in it," he said. "When I took it, I found out I didn't know as much as I thought about it. I could speak it, but I didn't really understand."

"Students don't really know English, so it's hard for them to grasp the concepts of a foreign language when you don't understand your own language," he said. "Language skills are completely different than anything else you learn in school."

He said many students come to find out that Spanish is naturally fun once they get over being worried about it. Sartori uses Spanish in his everyday life at home. He calls friends and converses with colleagues. He has twin girls who are 3 years old, to whom he speaks mostly English.

"There are some words they know only in Spanish, such as *picante*," Sartori said. "They say *picante* to mean any sort of condiment. They also know the colors in

Spanish."

Sartori didn't come to the United States until he went to college.

"I was in shock my first year in the United States," he said. "Just like Americans learn stereotypes about Mexicans, so do Mexicans about Americans. Neither are true."

Although he got over the stereotypes quickly and both of his parents are American, he still has a hard time feeling like he is an American.

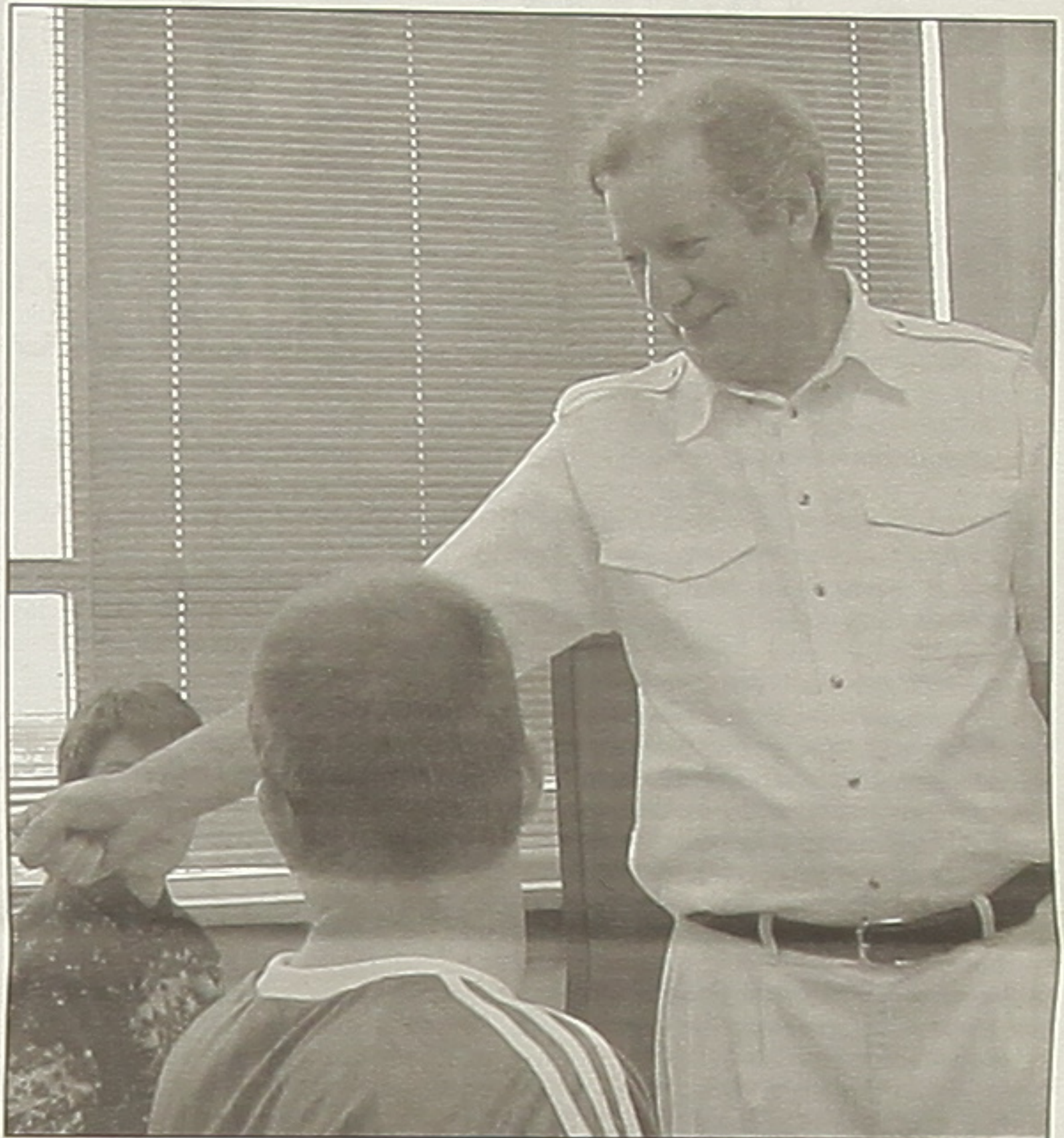
"Most students leave the Spanish 101-204 sequence and remember nothing," he said. "I hope they can get a sense of how other countries are different. Two people can look at the same thing and have different feelings about it."

Kathy Korcheck, instructor of Spanish, says the challenge of teaching Spanish to college students is that for most the class is a requirement.

"They come in with these preconceived ideas and bad attitudes," she said. "It's hard to get them motivated."

Korcheck started learning Spanish when she was 12 years old. She was fluent by the age of 16. She believes it benefits her as a teacher because she also had to go through the whole process of learning Spanish instead of being raised speaking it.

"If I can bring just one piece of culture closer to someone, it makes it all worthwhile," she said. "The best thing about being a teacher is that you never know what effect something you do has on someone else." □



ERIC GRUBER/The Chart

Dr. Rodolfo Schweizer presides over a Spanish 101 class. Schweizer has been at Southern since 1993.

COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT

Number of students majoring in Spanish increasing

By MELODY LANING
STAFF WRITER

Glancing around at distinct businesses, such as Wal-Mart, mall stores, and restaurants, a foreign language not widely known by most Missouri Southern students is being heard more distinctly. It is the Spanish language.

With the recent increase of Spanish-speaking people into the Joplin area, the need of fluent Spanish-speaking people has increased greatly. Local businesses such as

Leggett & Platt and CFI hire a large number of Spanish-speaking workers.

Courses are offered at Southern to help solve the problem. Whether the students want to be

fluent in Spanish or have an interest in the foreign job market, the number of Spanish majors at Southern has increased.

"Since 1993, there has been a huge increase in people majoring in Spanish," said Dr. Rodolfo Schweizer, associate professor of Spanish. "Currently there are around 25 students majoring in Spanish."

Students are also picking Spanish as their minor in order to expand job possibilities.

"In any field you go into, being able to speak a second language will greatly help you get a job," said Amber Burton, sophomore undecided major. "I chose Spanish as a minor because in the Joplin/Carthage area there is a greatly increasing need for

translators. I plan to use my Spanish minor for translating for companies and hospitals."

The Spanish-speaking possibilities are endless concerning the local Joplin job market.

"There are many potential areas locally involving Spanish majors," Schweizer said. "In high schools and elementary schools and companies, such as Leggett & Platt and CFI, Spanish translators are needed."

One student at Southern experienced the need for translators locally.

"In high school I was called in to translate at the Carthage hospital because there was no one else there fluent in Spanish," Burton said.

Schweizer believes coupling a Spanish major with another

major would be the most beneficial.

"The best thing to do would be to major in business and Spanish," he said. "All companies that have some business dealing with Mexico and South America need Spanish-speaking workers. An example of this is how Wal-Mart is expanding and opening stores in South America."

There are many other options in the work force involving the Spanish language.

"With a Spanish and political science major, you can work in the U.S. government in foreign services," Schweizer said. "You can also work with the government involving social services."

The job market is flooded with positions in various fields and translators are needed. □

“Since 1993, there has been a huge increase in people majoring in Spanish.”

Rodolfo Schweizer
Associate Professor

”

Celebrate ¡Celebrao

Churches embrace Hispanic worship

By RHONDA CLARK
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Area churches have opened their doors to the growing number of Hispanics to satisfy spiritual needs.

Sister Ayleson Maxwell, pastor associate of Nativity of Our Lord Catholic Church in Noel, has witnessed changes during her nine years in the area.

"When I first came, we had not one Hispanic family," she said. "About eight years ago, we got one family in, and within a year, they had about two or three of their brothers and sisters."

As families and friends immigrated to Noel, the congregation grew as well. They celebrated the first all-Spanish Mass in 1996.

"It was kind of like *Field of Dreams*, if you build it they will come," said the Rev. John Harth, pastor of the Catholic churches in Noel, Neosho, and Seneca.

Harth, along with the Rev. Joseph Liem, associate pastor, and the Rev. Bill Hodgson, assigned to full-time Hispanic ministry in the Springfield/Cape Girardeau Diocese, rotate celebrating the Spanish Mass.

Current parish figures are testament to the need for spiritual nourishment.

Before the advent of the 7 p.m. Saturday service, Nativity had some 70 registered families, but now number more than 200. Sister Ayleson estimates 100 families are Hispanic, of which 60 attend on a regular basis.

Faith Assembly of God in Joplin conducts regular Sunday Hispanic services at 2 p.m.

"There was really a need in this area," said the Rev. Larry Griffin, Faith Assembly's pastor. "There were a lot of Spanish-speaking people whose kids speak English but the parents don't, and we felt the need to reach out to them."

Their Hispanic congregation from

Mexico, El Salvador, and Guatemala share the same language, but have different customs.

"One of the things we're learning is that we can't say we minister to Spanish-speaking people, and that's just one culture," Griffin said. "There's a diversity of cultures."

His church does make adjustments to incorporate certain customs into the religious service, such as the Mexican quincenera, a celebration of a daughter's 15th birthday.

Griffin said the Hispanic service is a church within a church called *Christ Is the Door*, with a separate pastor, and will eventually be its own entity.

"I think we're going to see some of these smaller churches come together," Griffin said. "It's difficult for these small churches to support a pastor. They really need someone who speaks Spanish and who functions within that culture — who understands that culture — in order to be able to work among those people."

Pastor Francisco Bonilla, a native of El Salvador and Hispanic minister at Fairview Christian Church in Carthage, conducts three Hispanic services each weekend.

In June, this arm of Fairview Christian anticipates branching off as the Hispanic Christian Church.

Fairview Christian began Hispanic services in December 1993 after two members, Lucy Bond and Alice John, began assisting Carthage's growing Hispanic population with social and spiritual needs.

"They found out that the Hispanics also, some of them, were looking for a place to worship," Bonilla said. "As soon as they knew there was a place to worship, they started to come here, and this exploded."

He estimates some 5,000 Hispanics call Carthage home. Like Griffin, he sees the need to form a separate Hispanic church. Bonilla thinks language and cultural barriers may cause the Hispanic and Anglo congregations to have difficulty blending together.

Bob McGill, Hispanic family social minister of Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Webb City, finds a different attitude among parishioners.

"The attitude here is that we should be



NOPPADOL PAOTHONG/The Chart

Parishioners of Nativity of Our Lord Catholic Church gather palms before the Spanish Mass to commemorate Palm Sunday.

Christo! Christ!

Services

ish," he said. "It's the practice for churches and other organizations to treat the Spanish members as a kind of auxiliary — a separate group within the group — but here there is a desire to be at least as much among English speakers, or Anglos, as among Hispanics."

Heart offers an all-Spanish Mass on Sundays a month and celebrates a special service on alternating Sundays. He believes though Anglo and Hispanic parishioners share the same Catholic faith, it is expressed in different ways that complement each other, and incorporates Hispanic customs into religious services.

City celebrates bilingual Masses for Christmas and Easter, but the Mexican Our Lady of Guadalupe on Dec. 12 in Spanish.

Native dancers start at Main Street at six o'clock in the morning, and dance from there to down to the river. I guess it's equivalent to about three blocks, and then people come there too and follow them prayer-dancer Ayleson said.

The procession ends with a Mass followed by another one in the evening.

The church was full, standing room in the hallway was full, standing room outside and there were people standing outside because they couldn't get in," Harth said.

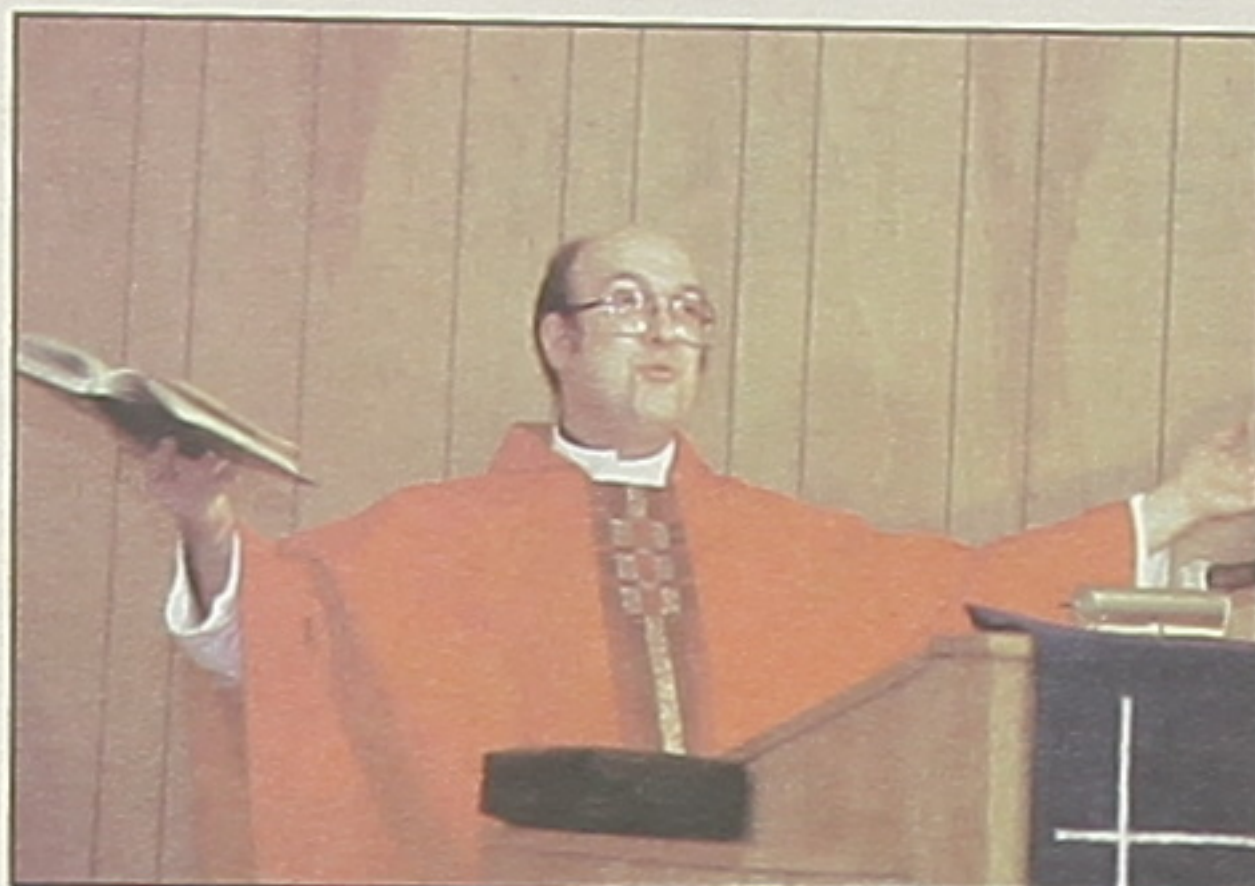
Churches agree language is the primary barrier when reaching out to Hispanics.

Mr. Ayleson is president of the Cultural Committee in Noel, which aims to bridge the gap between Hispanic and Anglo communities.

He noted that transportation is a problem for Hispanics.

Churches believe having a place to worship helps Hispanics fit into the community.

It was their cornerstone or their heart, I guess, in Mexico and Central America, and I think people feel set back when there is not a church community to come to in southwest Missouri. If we can provide that, then that's probably 75 percent of any social problem," he said. □

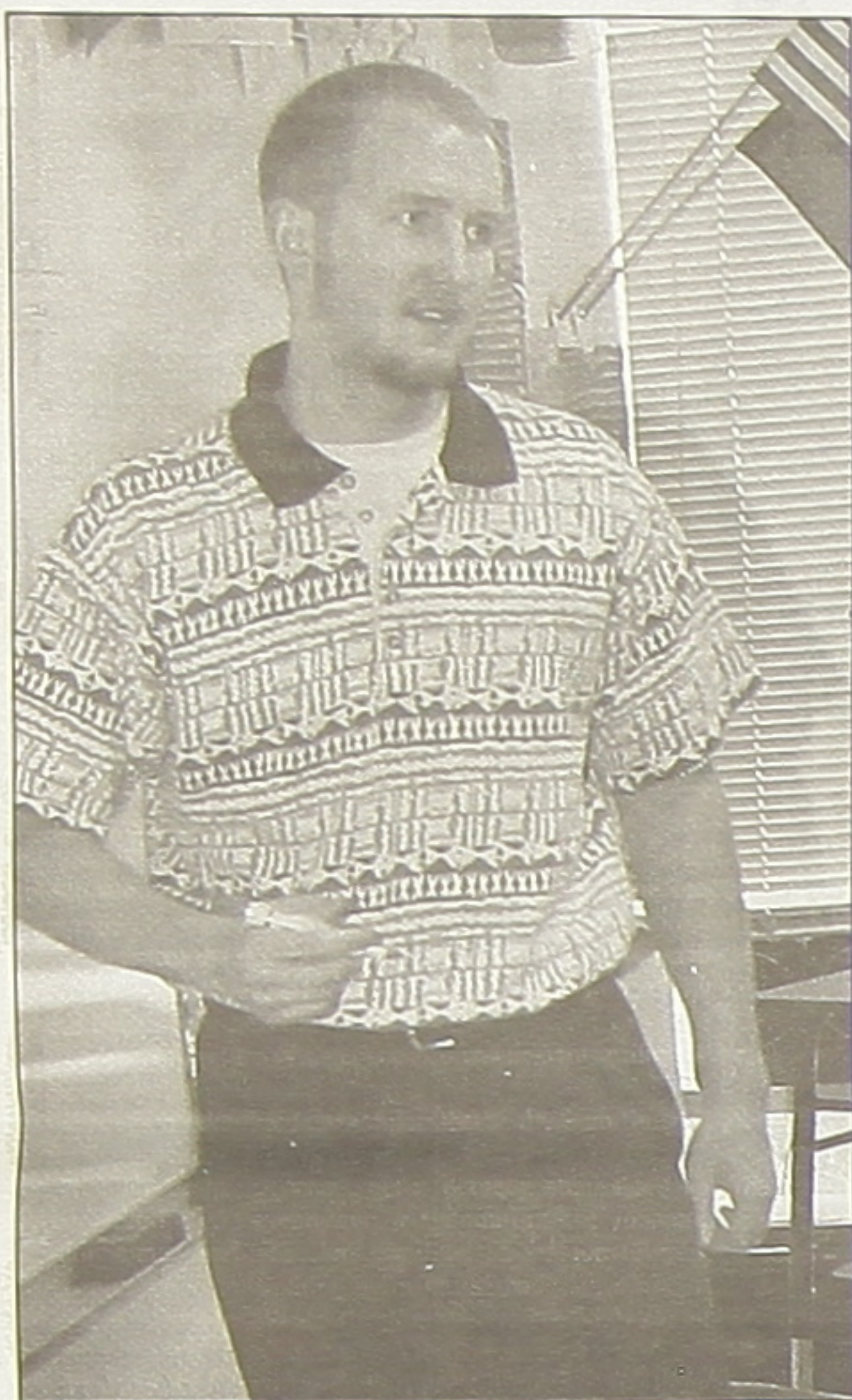


The Rev. Bill Hodgson (left), assigned to Hispanic ministry in the Springfield/Cape Girardeau Diocese, celebrates a Spanish Mass at Nativity of Our Lord Catholic Church, Noel. Pastor Francisco Bonilla, Hispanic minister of Fairview Christian Church, preaches his Sunday message.



Gilda Vargas raises her hand in praise and Martin Vargas plays his tambourine as they worship at Fairview Christian Church's Sunday service.

THOMAS JEFFERSON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL



Jason Shaver, sophomore international communications major, works with his students at Thomas Jefferson Independent School.

GINNY DUMOND/The Chart

Students use abilities to teach at high school

By GINNY DUMOND
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Rising numbers of students taking Spanish in high school coupled with the number of foreign language requirements at many colleges and universities has given two Missouri Southern Spanish students an unusual opportunity.

Juan Saldivar, junior Spanish major, and Jason Shaver, sophomore international communications major, are working as teachers at Thomas Jefferson Independent Day School.

"We look for very qualified speakers," said Gelmis Cole, Thomas Jefferson's Spanish instructor. "They both came in to really help me out big time." The Southern students teach the class during seventh period. Cole explained there has been an influx of students into the Spanish classes, which leads to the necessity for help.

"All the students here have to have at least three years of languages," she said. "It's also a requirement for a lot of colleges and universities, and they realize it's better for them to take Spanish in high school rather than start out in college."

Saldivar, who was born in Zacatecas, Mexico, moved to Los Angeles at the age of 1, but grew up with both Spanish and English. He and his family now live in Carthage, but he said attending elementary school in California was to his benefit because of the language emphasis.

"It kept me up with my Spanish and also taught me English at the same time," he said.

Saldivar believes more students are learning Spanish because more people around them are speaking the language.

"There are a lot of Spanish-speaking people moving

over here," he said. "It looks like there are more jobs over here."

Saldivar said more supervisory positions are opening up to Spanish speakers.

Shaver said mission trips to Honduras, Mexico, and the Ukraine gave him the desire to work with people of other cultures. Spanish is the only language he speaks fluently, but he is studying German and Russian. He studied Greek at Ozark Christian College.

"I thought the job would be more work than I could handle," he said. "I've never had a full-fledged teaching position and I'm responsible for making the curriculum for my two students."

Shaver is currently working to help students who are behind or have transferred into the school to meet Thomas Jefferson's graduation requirements.

"It's the best job I've ever had," he said.

It is not, however, the only Spanish-related job he has ever been offered. Shaver was interviewed to teach all the Spanish classes at Martin Luther Elementary.

"At the hospitals and everywhere they need people," he said.

"A lot of it is because of the influx of Spanish into the area."

Shaver thinks this is why Spanish speakers are in such high demand.

"It's increasing because there's actually more need for people who can communicate to non-English speaking individuals, and that increases the need for English-speaking people to know Spanish," he said.

This migration toward the Midwest is, in Shaver's opinion, beneficial for the area.

"I think it's a good thing because this area of the country has been the least diverse of the United States for a long time," he said. "It's breaking our isolation from other cultures." □

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Department offering new programs, guest speakers

By CALE RITTER
STAFF WRITER

Southwest Missouri's recent influx of Hispanic-Americans has caused a change in Missouri Southern's school of education.

"We provide a seminar on diversity and diversity issues for our student teachers," said Dr. Cameron Pulliam, director of clinical and field experiences in the education department.

The two most recent speakers for the seminar were Betty Robinson, who spoke about the African-American culture, and Adolfo Castillo, who spoke about the Hispanics.

Castillo is an advocate for Hispanics in southwest Missouri. He works with state legislators and members of Congress on Hispanic issues and is a liaison between the Hispanic community and the courts, busi-

nesses, and industries. He also talks to teachers about characteristics of Spanish youth.

"One problem's cause is that some are from Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, and other Latin American countries," Pulliam said.

"You may have 14- or 15-year-old youths who move into a southwest Missouri school district who have had no more than one or two years of schooling in their home country. This is because there is nothing like public education there, and to thrust that person into a ninth or 10th grade classroom...well, that presents quite a problem."

When focusing on intercultural diversity, the education department simply doesn't focus on the Hispanic community.

Southern has had speakers come from the Native, Asian, and African American communities.

"For example, a student from a culture may feel uncomfortable because in their culture it may not be appropriate to look you in the eye when they talk to you," Pulliam said.

Castillo started working at Southern as a volunteer helping Dr. Jerry Williams, director of continuing education. He helps to promote such programs for Hispanics as obtaining a GED.

A problem addressed at recent seminars is that many of the Hispanic people have never been to school in their own countries.

"The fact that they have not mastered the English language compounds because they have problems with their own language," Castillo said.

"These kids didn't go to school and they didn't learn to read and write."

Castillo said this lack of skills puts a lot of extra stress on the individual but more stress on the teacher because he/she doesn't

know where to begin.

"What we have found from the different speakers here is that they don't want exceptions made for their children," Pulliam said. "They want their children to be held at the same standards as any other children."

"What we are really lacking are teachers who can speak Spanish and communicate with their students," he said.

Currently at Southern, there is no foreign language requirement within the education department, but it is strongly recommended.

Southern brings up the issue of diversity in as many courses as possible.

"We have also made it a point to try to employ faculty who have diverse backgrounds," Pulliam said.

"We are trying to prepare our candidates for teachers for the situations they will face in the classrooms." □

JOPLIN MERCHANTS

Retailers adjust to increasing local population

By CHRIS ROBERTS
STAFF WRITER

With the ever-increasing diversity of this country, businesses nationwide are faced with unique communication difficulties every day. This is true perhaps even more so on a local level.

With nearby poultry plants and their use of a large Hispanic work force, the arrival of a Hispanic population has had a noticeable effect on the local economy.

Most businesses around town seem to be excited about the extra customers.

"This store is the 10th best seller of Latin music in the nation," says Hastings manager Steve Earnhart.

"We always seem to get quite a few regular Hispanic guests."

Bruce Hodson, manager of Sam Goody in the Northpark Mall, agrees.

"I'd say that in the past few years, sales in the Latin section have at least tripled, and probably more."

Hodson says he believes the increase in sales not only has to do with the increasing Hispanic population around town, but also because of the exposure that Tejano and Latin music have gotten of late.

"My business in this area is so good," Hodson said. "I wish I had a lot more of it."

Earnhart agrees. "I always wish I could get more, especially with the music and videos, and even books. The problem is that there is not a good source to get it from. Plus, there's just not enough new stuff."

"I can really see this type of music expanding dramatically," Hodson said.

"And I just wish I had a better understanding of the language and culture so that I could be more knowledgeable about my product."



Jason Casey, Spanish-speaking Hastings employee, stands by a display of some of the store's Latin music selection. NOPPADOL PAOTHONG/The Chart

Therein lies the heart of the difficulties faced by businesses nationwide. With so many new cultures being introduced into America, how can businesses hope to communicate with each and every one of them? Daryl Bauer, manager of Montgomery Ward in Joplin, hasn't had to deal with that yet.

"It really hasn't been that big of a problem," he explains. "Sometimes we'll get customers who don't speak English,

but usually they will bring in their kids who can. It's a good thing too because we don't have any employees who speak Spanish."

Earnhart, on the other hand, is faced with this problem every day.

"We have Hispanic guests in here every day," he said. "Luckily, I have a couple of employees who can speak Spanish, and we can just direct the guests to them." □

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Language program offers training for teachers

By PHYLLIS DE TAR
STAFF WRITER

Some 90 languages other than English are considered to be a first native tongue by students in Missouri schools, according to the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education.

From data submitted by 439 public school districts and several hundred nonpublic schools, the number considered Limited English Proficient (LEP) grew from 6,053 in 1996 to 7,627 in 1998.

Of those, seven southwest Missouri counties reported 1,034 enrolled in their various school districts.

For the sixth year in a row, the report stated Missouri schools have at least a 10 percent increase in LEP students enrolled in public schools.

"We have 60 multi-national students in Joplin," said Martha Whitford, a certified teacher of English as a Second Language (ESL).

About half of the 60 are of Hispanic origin. According to Whitford, the Joplin R-8

School District employs three ESL personnel; two are endorsed and one is a paraprofessional.

Dr. Rosa Fagundes, head of the program at Missouri Southern, said to be endorsed a teacher must successfully complete the necessary training at an accredited facility. It is considered a specialty in education. Special education and early childhood development are other fields of concentration within the teaching profession that require endorsement, she said.

Anticipating the need, Southern was the first in the state to instigate a program called Teachers of English for Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL) three years ago. Students working toward their teaching degree may include the program in their curriculum.

"Teachers who are already teaching either elementary or secondary can come here to take the required courses, and they will receive the endorsement," Fagundes said. "This will prepare them to work as an ESL teacher."

A total of 21 credit hours, including a three-hour practicum, are required to

become certified in ESL from the College.

The various courses include Introduction to Linguistics, which explores the structures of language and its writing systems. Basic theories of how non-English speaking people acquire English as well as teaching strategies are covered in depth.

A course on analysis and preparation of materials for teaching ESL is also a part of the curriculum.

"We are beginning to see a lot of material, but we have to be critical to see if the material is really good," Fagundes said.

Finally, the students take a practicum in which they gain supervised classroom experiences.

"It is very rewarding to work as an ESL teacher because they can see the students' progress as no other subject matter can," Fagundes said.

The program is overseen by an advisory board composed of Southern faculty and members of the community involved with the ESL population.

The Joplin ESL teachers meet the children in their own schools. Although this requires transporting their equipment and materials,

it does provide contact with the students' other teachers.

"It is very important that they network," Fagundes said.

The Joplin teachers work with all levels of proficiency from non-English to limited English.

"Some can speak, but have limitations in reading and writing," Whitford said.

Whitford teaches the high school program that includes science, social studies and communication arts, using a level of English they understand. As the students get better, they gradually migrate into the regular classroom.

"These young people are very bright, they just have a language deficit," she said. "Research has shown it takes five to seven years at age 15 to become proficient," she said.

"At the first grade level, they are fluent within a couple of years."

Whitford has been teaching Spanish most of her career.

"It is wonderful to know that what you are teaching will help a child survive," Whitford said. □

SOUTHERN ALUMNI

Brady takes job outside major field

By RUSSELL DAKE
STAFF WRITER

Numerous college and university graduates can find entering the job market a daunting task. However, if the applicant happens to be bilingual, many job opportunities may become available.

Following a December 1998 graduation from Missouri Southern, Alan Brady discovered one such opportunity with Contract Freighters, Inc., where he was hired as a safety supervisor-international. The Joplin-based trucking company conducts a majority of its business with Mexico, therefore, the need for Spanish-speaking employees is a must.

"Fifty percent of our business is with Mexico," said Karie Englert, CFI public relations. "Fifty-six percent to 60 percent of our business is international, but the majority is with Mexico."

Brady, who minored in German, is also fluent in Spanish. However, he did not take a single course in Spanish while attending Southern.

"My mother is from Spain, and I went to two years of high school and two years of elementary school in Spain," he said. "We also spoke it at home and visit Spain every summer."

Brady has lived a total of seven years in Spain, and most of his family, including his parents, reside in Spain.

"When we would have company who spoke English, we



RUSSELL DAKE/The Chart

Alan Brady, December 1998 Missouri Southern political science graduate, is currently using his Spanish skills at the Contract Freighters, Inc. (CFI) trucking company.

would speak English," he said. "If we had company that was Spanish, we would speak Spanish. It just depended on the company we were having."

Currently, Brady is training for a job in the claims department. Most of his work deals with claims in Mexico about damaged, refused, or lost cargo. This requires him to effectively communicate with many of his shippers in Spanish. Sometimes, there may be a need for a translator in another department.

"It is not mandatory, but we do try to hire bilingual employees," Englert said.

Brady, who majored in political science, someday hopes to work in some area internationally. He served as an intern at the U.S. State Department before graduation.

"This job will allow me to get a better idea of the business aspects of international relations," Brady said. "My ultimate goal is to be in the international field, be it in business or politics."

The North American Free Trade Agreement of 1992, despite early skepticism and several obstacles, has resulted in a steady increase in trade with Mexico and Canada since 1994. CFI is one carrier that has prospered in this arena. □

NAFTA

Businesses deal with trade agreement, regulations

By JEFF WELLS
MANAGING EDITOR

Local businesses have experienced increased trade with Mexico over the last few years, but the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) does not deserve all the credit.

According to business leaders, the stabilization of the peso, the minimal impact of the Brazilian financial crisis, and the growing buying power of the Mexican population all contribute to healthy trade between the United States and Mexico.

NAFTA went into affect Jan. 1, 1994. The agreement was designed to lower barriers to trade among the three countries of North America, creating the world's largest unified market.

"I think the original intent of NAFTA was to create opportunity for free trade among the three countries of North America," said Rob O'Brian, president of the Joplin Area Chamber of Commerce.

Gary Nichols, director of marketing for Joplin-based Contract Freighters, Inc. (CFI), said the company has benefited indirectly from NAFTA.

"NAFTA was designed as a trade document only," he said. "However, transportation companies were able to benefit from the new business created by the increased trade."

Nichols said CFI has enlarged the payroll because of cross-border business.

"The number of employees has increased because of U.S.-Mexico trade, however, we do not attribute that to NAFTA," he said.

Nichols said growth trends were present before NAFTA, and phenomenal growth potential still exists. He said more than 50 percent of the Mexican population is under the age of 20. As they mature, Mexico's buying power will continue to grow.

He also said Mexico's role in the region would become more prominent.

"Mexico will become the distribution center for Central and South America over the

next 15 to 20 years," he said.

Infrastructure problems linger to hamper U.S.-Mexican trade. Border crossing facilities are inadequate, and Mexican technology has not kept pace.

Questions of currency stability still linger.

"Since we invest in Mexico...we haven't seen a big impact there," said Arnold Berney, vice president of international sales at Leggett & Platt in Carthage.

Leggett & Platt manufactures box springs, inner springs, and shelves in Mexico.

"There are a number of our customers who have set up operations in Mexico," Berney said. "Certainly that affects us."

Berney said companies often set up operations in Mexico looking for cheaper labor. The companies then bring goods back into the U.S. without paying high tariffs.

He said currently there is not a large market for U.S. goods in Mexico. However, that may change as the Mexican population's disposable income increases. □

“NAFTA was designed as a trade document only. However, the transportation companies were able to benefit from the new business created by the increased trade.”

Gary Nichols
Marketing Director,
Contract Freighters, Inc.

TYSON FOODS

Poultry plant sees increase of Hispanics

By VINCE SWEENEY
STAFF WRITER

Area poultry plants are beginning to see larger numbers of Hispanics working for their businesses. Tyson Foods is one of the main plants dealing with this. Ed Nicholson, corporate public relations manager, believes many people think Hispanics are immigrating to the United States solely because of the poultry plants. However, this is not the case.

"There is a conventional wisdom that says Hispanics are here because of the poultry industry, which is not true," Nicholson said. "They are fulfilling many different jobs. If you did an accurate count of Hispanics working for other businesses and compared them to the number of Hispanics involved with the poultry business, it would contradict those who believe the Hispanics are here because of the poultry plants."

Nicholson says the total number of Hispanics working for Tyson Foods is minimal. Tyson currently employs around 1,650 Hispanics in Arkansas.

Jim Haston, complex personnel manager at Tyson's in Monett, thinks the bulk of Hispanic immigration began about five years ago.

"We employ less than 50 percent of Hispanics here," he said.

Haston believes the majority of Hispanics working for Tyson have knowledge of the English language.

"Some absolutely cannot speak a word of English," he said. "I find some can, and then some are excellent."

According to Haston, most of the Hispanics on the work force for Tyson have an education level between grades eight to 12. This is because after a certain level of education in Mexico, one is required to pay for the rest. He thinks some have a good educational background, while there are others who are severely uneducated.

Karen Johnson, education consultant of the Western



NOPPADOL PAOTHONG/The Chart

Tyson employs around 1,600 Hispanics in Arkansas. Low employment rates in Mexico send Hispanic workers to the U.S.

Missouri Migrant Education Center in Monett, works with Hispanic children whose parents are involved in the food business.

"Too many people do not know the real definition of a migrant student," Johnson said. "We just work with kids whose parents work in food."

Johnson says there is now a significant amount of Hispanics in Sedalia because of a newly built Tyson plant.

"Sedalia is about where we were six years ago and will see a large influx, but has yet to catch up with us."

The large influx has proven to benefit such plants as Tyson. Haston says this has changed Tyson because what the influx does to the unemployment rate helps the industry to fulfill customer needs.

Haston says the main reason Hispanics choose to apply for jobs in the United States is because of low employment rates in Mexico.

One of the more simple reasons is just word of the mouth.

Currently at Tyson, Hispanics are working all shifts.

"It's first come, first serve," Haston said.

"I am surprised at how many applications we get. I feel like we are lucky."

Haston also says he sees few problems with racism. He believes all the Hispanic employees are happy with their jobs and he sees few disgruntled workers.

Johnson says the Hispanics are here to stay.

"They will be going back and forth," she said. "The hard part with the factories might be if a family member gets sick or holidays. Used to, they would pack up and think nothing of it."

"But now with so many people, they value their job more."

Nicholson believes it is the determination that makes Hispanics so unique.

"It takes a motivated person to come a long distance and face a new culture and new language and better their life," he said. □

LOCAL SCHOOL SYSTEM

ESL program offered in Pittsburg school district

By ELIZABETH SCHURMAN
ASSISTANT EDITOR

The Pittsburg, Kan., School District has initiated a new program this year to help students from other countries learn to speak English as a second language.

"The program is a good program," said Bobbi Keiter, the English as a Second Language (ESL) instructor in Pittsburg. "The students who come in have various levels of language acquisition."

"Some of them have no exposure to English."

Even though this is the first year for the ESL program in Pittsburg, there are already 30 students, district-wide, who are participating in the school's curriculum.

"I have 14 of my own students, and the majority of them are Hispanic," Keiter said.

The philosophy of the program is total immersion for the students, who are exposed all day to English.

"Students participate in TPR, which is total physical response, where I say stand, and as each student stands, they say the word stand," Keiter said.

Students also learn to identify parts of their body in English, such as their elbows and arms, as well as learn word attack, where the students directly focus on vocabulary, pronunciation, and identification.

"We use picture dictionaries and flash cards to teach them their phonics and the alphabet," Keiter said.

There are three stages or levels

the students go through to complete the program. The first stage involves the students listening to the instructor and English being read, and soaking up the information.

The second stage is when the students get to start speaking the language, which comes a little at a time. The third stage the students go through is when they begin writing the language. The whole process should take about a year or two to complete.

"It takes a while to complete this because the language is more difficult and the students just have to pick it up a little each day," Keiter said.

Some students don't speak any English, so they go to Pittsburg State University to take intensive

English four days a week. As soon as they learn enough English to speak and understand it, the students go back to the classrooms for the ESL program.

Upon completion of the program, students continue regular classes.

"There really aren't any set guidelines on how to let the students out of the program yet," Keiter said. "We test them when they come in and then see how far they've come, and depending on the test scores, it lets us know what to do."

Not all schools have a need for an English as a Second Language program.

"There isn't a need for a program here like that," said Cherie Paige, Carl Junction counselor. "If we did have a need for it, then we certainly would initiate it." □

"I have 14 of my own students and the majority of them are Hispanics."

Bobbi Keiter
ESL Instructor

STUDENT FEATURE

“ I know what it's like to be afraid of asking and not understanding. I've been there. ”

Mexico native uses skills to help at clinic

By RHONDA CLARK
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

In a soft voice and with gentle gestures, Nidia Lopez, junior psychology major, recounts with vivid imagery the anxiety of relocating from Colima, Mexico to Mount Vernon in 1989.

Her family came to find a better life, and the young sixth grader found the language difficult. As the first Mount Vernon Hispanic student, Lopez felt isolated and spent class time reading children's books while other students listened to lectures on history, science, or spelling.

"There wasn't really anybody to talk to except my family," she said. "I felt lonely and I felt like I was portrayed as really kind of a dumb person because I didn't know the language."

While maturing and mastering English, Lopez found acceptance in junior and senior high school, but was lacking in another area. Though books had taught her the language, they could not teach culture. Coping with her environment and interacting with others became a new challenge.

"Life for me in Colima was really simple," Lopez said.



Nidia Lopez aids a Spanish-speaking patient in filling out a form for a prescription at the Freeman Maternity Clinic. She says bridging the language gap between patients and medical personnel is the favorite part of her job.

"There are expectations when you live in American society, there are expectations that you are taught."

In Mexico, meeting basic needs of food, water, and cleanliness was adequate. She was not accustomed to Americans' obsession with appearances and emphasis on material things.

An avid soccer fan, she traded her soccer ball for a basketball upon coming stateside because a soccer program did not exist in her school. Lopez, who now enjoys working out, art projects, and hiking, describes herself as a "nature kind of person."

Outfitted in a yellow T-shirt, blue jeans, sandals, and toting the usual backpack, she appears right at home on Missouri Southern's campus. Lopez visited the College as a high school sophomore and was impressed with its international mission.

"The fact that there is a whole world out there to be explored, being the international person, being from Mexico, I think it's important to me that people do understand

the different cultures and what's going on around the world," Lopez said.

Bilingual capabilities landed her a job at the Freeman Maternity Clinic where she performs not only office duties but also translations between Hispanic patients and medical personnel. Her face brightens when stating why she was the best candidate for the position.

"I went and applied for the job, and at the interview, I said I think I'm the best person for the job because I know how the (patients) feel," Lopez said. "I know what it's like to be afraid of asking and not understanding. I've been there."

Bridging this gap is what she enjoys most about her job.

Francis Miller, care coordinator at the clinic, works three- or four-day weeks, and, when not there, finds Lopez a major help translating.

"Because I'm bilingual, we're able to assist with patients' questions," Miller said.

Becky Mitchell, certified nurse midwife and the clinic's director, thinks Lopez and

Miller complement each other — one bringing a youthful approach to patients, and the other providing more of a mother figure.

Mitchell said Lopez, being confident and outspoken, encourages Hispanic women to realize their full potential.

Lopez highlighted two problems currently confronting area Hispanics. She has seen an increase in job competition, and school systems must find resources to help Spanish-speaking students succeed.

The area's attitude toward Hispanics is improving, but Lopez believes it takes compromise on both sides of the culture barrier to adjust to differences.

She said most of the southwest Missouri immigrants are doing what any other person would do when faced with similar circumstances.

"Certain communities feel they are being invaded by Hispanics, and I ask them to be considerate because the Hispanics are just trying to have a better life and do better," Lopez said. □



NOPPADOL PAOTHONG/The Chart
Lopez, a junior psychology major, reviews patient charts while working at the Freeman Maternity Clinic.

CONTINUING EDUCATION

Class teaches Spanish medical terms

By ANGIE WILLIAMS
STAFF WRITER

Knowing basic Spanish is convenient for some day-to-day affairs, but in an emergency it could mean the difference between life and death.

A year ago, a continuing education course at Missouri Southern was given a trial run and resulted in somewhat poor turnout. Despite that turnout, current doctors, nurses, and trauma care specialists have another chance to attend this semester's new Spanish course developed specifically for the medical field.

Every Wednesday for 12 weeks from 7 to 9 p.m. David Janney, a Spanish instructor, teaches a class of 44 the ways to write,

speak, and comprehend critical questions and answers that could mean a patient's life.

"I've been wanting to do this for a long time," Janney says. "Nurses and doctors are an extremely good class to have."

Janney says Southern just leaves him alone and lets him teach, which is good.

"I don't waste time," Janney says. "I teach what's needed and I make sure they get something out of it."

According to Janney, last year this course wasn't promoted very well resulting in the poor turnout. But due to the communication barrier, doctors and nurses began to realize the problem and started looking for a solution. After a call to

Southern they discovered the specialized Spanish course and began signing up.

"I about swallowed my tongue," Janney says, "when I found out I was going to be teaching 44 students. That's the biggest class I've ever taught."

In an emergency, medical professionals need to be able to communicate with patients in more in-depth and professional terms.

Dr. Jerry Williams, director of continuing education, says communication is a big key for the future of the medical profession.

"There's a problem with communication," he says.

"That's what we're trying to alleviate."

Williams says doctors need to

be able understand the patients' needs and be able to respond to those needs.

The new course consists of medical professionals from around the community who would like to expand their Spanish vocabulary to also embrace medical terminology. Many medical professionals deal with Hispanics every day, and this course helps them to expand in their job.

"One needs to be able to communicate," Williams says, "to know how to express yourselves and ask important questions and understand the answers."

Williams says this course probably will be offered again due to the interest and the growing Hispanic population.

"Some see this as a life or

"

There's a real problem with communication. That's what we're trying to alleviate.

Dr. Jerry Williams
Director, Continuing Education

"

death class," he says. "Whether you can communicate with a trauma patient or not, it is." □

COMPASS INSTITUTE

Education remains key for Hispanic communities

By ERIC GRUBER
ARTS EDITOR

While some people search for answers to world questions and others try to find new ways to improve society, one southwest Missouri man believes he has found the key.

Adolfo Castillo is associate executive director of the Compass Institute, a non-profit organization which provides assistance and services to other non-profit organizations. He tells of a simple plan to make life better for all Missourians, Hispanic and non-Hispanic alike.

"I believe that education is the key to breaking out of poverty," he said. "And, I'm a strong believer that if you are going to help someone, you need to give them the tools they need."

Castillo is one who knows all too well the benefits of educational tools.

Born in McAllen, Texas, to Mr. and Mrs. Jose Castillo, he was the oldest of 12 children. He lived in poverty and dropped out of high school.

Immediately after this, Castillo was drafted into the army and received his GED. He went on to receive his bachelor's degree in occupation and education in business from Wayland Baptist University at San Antonio. He retired from the military in 1992 well decorated.

"I married a Joplinite named Della Collins," he adds. "I have three sons from a previous marriage, and I have a stepson and stepdaughter."

Castillo said when he moved to Joplin, he discovered an influx of Hispanics due to the poultry and agricultural industries. While these industries continued to grow in the area, Hispanics without "Americanized" education found it hard to obtain needed items to work such as a driver's license,

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I believe that education is the key to breaking out of poverty.

Adolfo Castillo
The Compass Institute

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insurance, and health care. Castillo had a desire to help.

"Before I knew it, I was working part time for a senator," he said. "It opened my eyes. I became used as a 'mediator' between the Anglo and Hispanic community."

Recent legislation has made it possible for Hispanics to take the GED in Spanish while still learning English. Before this, Hispanics had to be able to speak English proficiently before being able to take the test, thus presenting even more hardships for learning.

The Monett Migrant Center has applied this program to its agenda. Castillo praises it by saying, "It is very successful." He does believe the need for both Hispanic and bilingual workers in hospitals and law enforcement is great.

And for Castillo, education really was the key to breakout of poverty.

"I worked in the fields like most of these people, I can relate to them," he said. "Education was something we needed, but it came second to survival."


"I am a very strong believer in the Bible and the Constitution," he said. "If you know about these two things, you can talk and debate with anybody." □



ERIC GRUBER/THE CHART

Adolfo Castillo sits in McDonald's on South Main after enjoying a cup of coffee.

CRUZAR LAS FRONTERAS



IDIOMA CULTURA
EDUCACIÓN RELIGIÓN